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Israelis were not prepared for natic resurrence s

#### Majali meets Melchite patriarch

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on Sunday received the visiting head of the Melchite Church, Patriarch Maximos Hakim of Antioch and All Orient, and reviewed with him the latest developments in the Middle East and the efforts made by His Majesty King Hussein to establish a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region. Patriarch Hakim voiced happiness over his meeting with the prime minister, saying that Dr. Majali briefed him on the Jordanian view towards the peace negotiations. Patriarch Hakim said the issue of Jerusalem was one of the most important albeit difficult problems facing the Arab and Muslim nations. He stressed his belief that Jerusalem should be restored to Arab sovereignty.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jorgan Press Foundation جوردان تابعر يوميَّة مُنيَّاسية تصغر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية ،الراي،

AMMAN MONDAY, MAY 9, 1994, THU AL QE'DEH 28, 1414

Jordan invites S. African leaders to visit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein is extending an invitation to South Africa's new president, Nelson Mandela and the ontgoing President, F.W. de Klerk, to visit Jordan, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid said Sunday. In a statement before departure for South Africa to attend the inauguration of Mr. Mandela on Tuesday Prince Ra'd said that he was carrying the invitation from the King to the South African leaders and greetings from the leaders and people of Jordan to the South African leaders and people. Prince Ra'd, who is leading a Jordanian official delegation to attend the inauguration ceremony, said Jordan views Mr. Mandela's victory as a major historic event and a harbinger of a new era of progress nad peace in Africa. "Jordan has always opposed apartheid and racial discrimination and the event is viewed by the Kingdom as an indication of a beginning of an era of tranquility and peace in the African continent," Prince Ra'd said.

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

# Battle for Aden under way

Combined agency despatches

Volume 18 Number 5607

NORTHERN TROOPS loval to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh tightened the noose around the city of Aden Sunday and were poised to break through the gates of the southern stronghold, diplomats said.

"Aden is expected to fall within hours," the official northern-controlled press agency SABA said, adding that heavy fighting was going on around the town between rival northern and southern

Two northern units trying to advance towards Aden met strong resistance, a senior U.S. official who tried to mediate in the conflict said.

"As I understand it, there are two separate northern units that are trying to move towards Aden," Robert Pelletreau, a U.S. assistant secretary of state responsible for the Middle East, told reporters in Abu Dhabi. "They are now both of them

being blocked by southern units who are resisting very strongly. His was one of the few inde-

pendent reports on a conflict carving up the country of 13 million four years after it un-

With international telecommunication links with Aden and San'a still erratic, an independent verification of the conflicting victory claims was not immediately possible.

However, Western diplomats in Sanaa and oil company executives with links to both

**Beidh reportedly contacts** King Hussein offering talks

YEMENI Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh on Sunday contacted His Majesty King Hussein saying he was ready for a political dialogue with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Aden Radio said in a report monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation. There was no Jordanian confirmation of the

report.
King Hussein brought President Saleh and Vice-President Beidh as well as other Yemeni political leaders together in Amman in February to sign a reconciliation and reform agreement. However, the accord was not implemented, and the King said last month that Jordan was leaving a joint military commission entrusted with separating the northern and southern army units.

sides said Saturday the northerners appear to have gained the upper hand.

Western diplomats in the region said the city's main air base at Al Anad, 50 kilometres from Aden had been captured by the northern troops.

But this was swiftly denied by an official southern spokesman as "completely baseless." He told the local Aden office of SABA under southern con-

trol that troops backing Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh, a southerner, controlled the whole of the Lahij province where the airbase is sited. He also categorically denied

that fighting was going on "at the gates of Aden," accusing Mr. Saleh's troops of having bombed villages and civilian buildings in Al Dhaleh, 60 kilometres north of Aden.

One diplomat in the Gulf said Mr. Saleh's troops had Aden trapped in a pincer

movement and fighting was

raging just 20 kilometres from

the port city of more than 500,000 residents. Yemeni Information Minister Hassan Ahmad Al Lozi said in Doha his side would win in "the next few hours" as northern troops had the upper

hand in the fighting.
"The forces of legality (northern) are controlling the situation in the country with the exception of certain areas of fighting in Lahij, Aden and a part of Abyan," he said in a statement to the official Qatari News Agency (QNA). Southern Yemen was fully

mobilised Sunday to defend its power base.

A military spokesman in Aden said northern forces in Al Kawt, 30 kilometres to the east of the city had been repel-led and that Mr. Saleh's troops were in retreat towards the had been ambushed and wiped out in Redfan, to the north, military spokesmen in Aden

But SABA reported in Sanaa that a brigade of southern troops had been destroyed in the Abyan province, and two warplanes shot down near Al Dhaleh

Correspondents said the situation in Aden was calm, although civilians had begun patrolling alongside soldiers carrying automatic weapons distributed to them earlier by the southern authorities.

Aden residents said kat, a leaf chewed as a stimulant by many Yemenis, was back in the souks of Aden, an indication that roads were open from Dalea, the main source.

Aden city was back to normal on Sunday. Banks, businesses, schools and restaurants were open. Witnesses in Aden said two

northern planes were shot down over the city on Saturday. One was apparently trying to bomb Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh's residence,

Witnesses saw about 30 warplanes taking off early on Sunday from Aden towards Abyan province. Northern Yemen said south-

ern forces launched three air raids on Sanaa on Sunday after firing at least five Scud missiles at the city and nearby areas

during the night.

Sanaa Radio broadcast a message to residents in the south, telling them northern troops were about to take over

re-unite the country.

Southern sources had earlier called the Abyan battle a deci-sive one. "The battles are very fierce and at close quarters...
the battle is the last and the decisive one in the Yemen war," one said.

The northern Amaliga Brigade has its main base in Zingibar and its troops are stationed in other areas in Abyan.

The southern statement said its forces destroyed Amaliga fortifications in several areas in fierce fighting and "succeeded in destroying many of its advancing forces.

"To cover their retreat Amaliqa are taking refuge in people's homes and using civitians as human shields," it said.

The old downtown of Aden, a former British protectorate, lies at the foot of mountains and is built on a peninsula, leaving the southern troops vulnerable in case of a northern advance into the city.

"If Aden falls, the psychological impact will be so great that the north will have virtually won," one diplomat said. Neither side has issued a

casualty toll since all-out fighting broke out on Thursday, four years after the country was set up by unifying the old conservative North Yemen and Marxist South Yemen.

But an Islamic party supporting the president said Saturday that at least 150 people had died.

> (Continued on page 5) hospital is designed to be a "scientific edifice, providing

excellent opportunities for future doctors to attain the high-

est academic qualifications. King Hussein voiced satisfaction with the academic

AMMAN (Petra) — His

Majesty King Hussein on Sun-

day laid the foundation stone

ce and Technology (JUST).

Al Tal, Chief Islamic Justice

and the King's advisor Izzedin Al Khatib Al Tamimi, JUST

President Kamel Ajlouni and

senior military and civil offi-

In a statement to the press

university and stressed the important role it can play. "I believe this university is the jewel of our universities

JD 50m, 643-bed Irbid hospital

levels achieved by this young

King lays foundation stone of

of King Abdullah Hospital at the Jordan University of Scienbecause of its focus on our The ceremony was attended by the speakers of the Upper homeland's future needs and the preparation of our youth to and Lower Houses of Parlia-ment, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Said perform their big role and face up to the challenges," King Hussein said.

the King said. following his visit to the uni-versity, King Hussein said the

He stressed the need on the part of universities to focus on prescring students for productive work that help fulfil the country's needs rather than to qualify them for a degree only. The King met with the JUST

president and deans of facul-The King was accompanied

Hmeidi Al Fayez.

The King Abdullah Hospital project will be carried out at a cost of JD 50 million, to be covered by the treasury in the

by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and the

King's military advisor and

chief escort Major General

hospital at the Jordan University of Science and Technology in Irbid (Petra photo)

Arab Fund for Economic Development and the Jeddahbased Islamic Rank. The hospital, which will have 643 beds, will provide 3,000 job opportunities. The

project is being carried out by Spanish company.

end in 1997. Once completed, the hospit-

## **Hebron observers** get whiff of tension

HEBRON, occupied West Bank (Agencies) - International observers moved into Hebron on Sunday and got their first taste of tension in the town where a Jewish settler massacred more than 30 Palestinians in a mosque in February.

Shortly after the 117 unarmed observers in white uniforms drove into Hebron, clashes erupted between Palestinians and Israeli soldiers outside the mayor's office where the observers stopped for a courtesy call.

The troops fired tear-gas at stone-throwers, who shouted "settlers out." Some observers got caught in the gas cloud. "It was not a nice experience. I did not expect it would be this bad," said Grethe Bille, a Danish observer who said a

gas. "I do not see why the military is provocative to the people here." The force, officially the Temporary International Pre-sence in the city of Hebron

Palestinian gave her an omon

to sniff to ease the effects of

(TIPH), arrived in a convoy escorted by Israeli army jeeps. The main task of members. sent by Norway, Denmark and Italy, will be to monitor the safety of Palestinians in the

"The purpose is to try tobring the situation back prior

to the massacre in the mosque," mission head Kjell Johansen of Norway told reporters just before the force entered Hebron.

"Maybe they need the protection, not us," said a woman named Basma hugging a child crying from teargas lobbed by The army teargassed stone-

throwing youths as the obser-

vers emerged from an official reception at the town hall, just 200 metres away. The unarmed observers did not seem too bothered as they clambered into their cars for a

drive around the city.

Hundreds of Palestinians had applauded as the TIPH entered the town aboard a fleet

of all-white cars. Palestinians celebrated by cheering and honking their car horns outside the reception. But off to the side, youngsters taunted troops and lobbed rocks in a daily scene from the

intifada against occupation. The observers — the first international force Israel has allowed to deploy in the occupied territories - were greeted by Hebron Mayor Mustapha

"We look forward to seeing that your presence here will provide our people with a feelng of security and that you will

(Continued on page 10)



entry to the occupied West Bank was delayed on Sunday by Israel pose for photographers at their

temporary camp near the King Hussein Bridge (Photo by Yousef Al Alban)

## Failure of police to enter disappoints Palestinians

From Mariam Shahin in Jericho

**EXPECTATIONS** were high and the atmosphere was full of disbelief as thousands of Palestinians in the West Bank town of Jericho on Sunday awaited the first symbols of self-rule autonomy to en-ter the Israeli-occupied territories in 27 years.

But as noon came and went Palestinians realised that the entry of the Palestinian National Security Forces (PNSF) would be delayed yet

A last-minute disagreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership in Tunis and the Israeli government about the mode in which the PNSF's Kalishnikov rifles and pistols would enter the occupied territories delayed the entry of PNSF units into Gaza and Jericho up to 72 hours.

"They are teasing us," said Ahmad Sherif, who had come to Jericho to welcome some 270 PNSF members

(Continued on page 5)

## Morale high among policemen despite delay

By Sana Atiyeh Special to the Jordan Times

SOUTH SHUNEH - The morale of 270 Palestinian fighters-turned policemen remained relatively high Sunday despite Israel's refusal to allow them entry to Jericho as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had

planned. After waiting for more than five hours, the policemen were told by the Israeli authorities across the Jordan River that they would have to wait some more beforee assuming their responsibilities in the West Bank town of

"We were told that the

us," said Brigadier Mohammad Qudsieh, who heads the 3,200-strong Jordan-based Bader Brigades of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA).

Brig. Qudsieh, who is leading the Palestinian police unit of the Bader Brigades into Jericho, told reporters that Israel was "using its usual delaying tactics," but he could not confirm when the police force would be allowed to go into the West Bank.

"But this delay will not affect the morale of our men," Brig. Qudsieh said. "Sooner or later we will get our rights."

The brigadier told journalists at the pilgrim station - a makeshift zinc-roofed camp crossing into Jordan on their way to pilgrimage in Mecca - that his men would camp out in that spot until they are permitted to go to Jericho through the King Hussein

Bridge. Brig. Qudsieh expected that a 522-strong unit from the Iraq-based Al Aqsa Brigades, which was on its way to the pilgrim station at press time, will join up with his forces before crossing the Jordan River.

Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed an agreement for limited Palestinian autonomy in Jericho and the Gaza Strip last week in Cairo, allowing a 9,000-strong Palestinian police force to start deploy-

ment in the two areas as of May 8.

The police force is made up of PLO fighters in Jordan, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Algeria and Yemen, and most of them are loval to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatch faction. A convoy of 23 military

buses, trucks and jeeps drove into the pilgrim station as the khaki-clad men waved Palestinian flags and flashed

the "V"-for-victory sign. They had carried their AK-47s in separate wooden boxes to be opened only after they crossed to the West Bank. As they waited, many of the officers began taking off

their red berets and wearing

the new green ones with an

eagle and "police" written underneath it instead of the old "Palestine Liberation Army." Dozens of officers began sewing on their new "Palestine" and "National Security forces" emblems on their sleeves.

This is a typical case of Israeli manoeuvering," said Lieutenant-Colonel Atef Badwan of Israel's refusal to allow them in on Sunday. "But we have been waiting for decades to return to our homeland, and we can wait a little bit more." All 270 men, most of

whom are officers between 30 and 60 years old, did not know they would be chosen

(Continued on page 5)

What has been achieved at the university and in Jordan as a whole is the fruit of dedication, hard and untiring work,

Work on the project started in early 1994 and is expected to

al will bring to 12 the number of hospital beds per 10,000 population up from the current rate of nine per 10,000. The attend to 1,000 patients a day.

## House endorses sales tax law

penal code, since other

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Lower House of Parliament on Sunday approved a draft sales tax law after introducing several amendments to it.

The House, meeting under the chairmanship of Speaker Taher Al Masri and in the presence of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and Cabinet members, endorsed the law after debating the law starting with its 35th article. The article deals with puni-tive measures that should be

taken against tax evaders. Deputies were divided over penalties as stipulated in the While some deputies supported the penalties stated in the law as drafted by the government, others said that these penalties were "barsh"

and incompatible with the

crimes much bigger than tax evasion have their penalties less than stated in the draft sales tax law, or amendments to it by the House's Financial Committee

The article was then passed by the House after introducing several amendments to it.

Then the House approved the remaining articles of the draft law and appendices of commodities exempt from the tax. The law now goes

before the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) for ; approval. Observers expected the Upper House to insist on some of the original articles of the law as proposed by the

government and this could

lead to a deadlock, which

could only be resolved at a

joint session of the two

The main amendments introduced by the Lower House involve a reduction of the base rate of the sales tax to seven per cent from the 10 per cent proposed by the government, scheduling the second phase of the implementation of the tax plan five years after the first phase instead of the three years sought by the government and a stipulation that the list of goods exempt from the levy be part of the law rather than leaving it to the govern-

ment to decide them. The amendments are estimated to reduce up to JD 45 million from the envisaged JD 170 million revenues from the levy in the fiscal budget

## PLO puts off naming of self-government authority

TUNIS (Agencies) - The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has delayed for the. next week the naming of its team to take charge in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, PLO Executive Committee member Samir Ghoshe said on Sunday. Mr. Ghoshe, who had said

on Saturday that the Palestinian National Authority would be named within 48 hours, told Reuters on Sunday PLO leader Yasser Arafat needed more time for consultations. "There is a draft list, but the

first consultations showed that more time was needed. Some of the nominees rejected the offer. Others delayed their responses," Mr. Ghoshe said. PLO sources told Reuters among nominees reluctant to

be on the authority are chief negotiator Faisal Al Husseini. Ahmad Qouriea, the man who negotiated the secret peace deal with Israel, and Maher Al Masri, a businessman from the West Bank town of Nablus.

"It is the first time in their history the Palestinians have to name a self-government. It is

not that easy," a close aide to

Mr. Arafat said. Mr. Ghoshe said the team will probably be named after Mr. Arafat returns from Nelson Mandela's presidential inauguration in South Africa on Tuesday.

The PLO Executive Committee, which will oversee the authority, decided on a delay at a meeting in Tunis on Saturday night chaired by Mr. Arafat, he said.

"More work is also needed to define the duties of the authority and its internal rules," Mr. Ghoshe said.

Under the agreement on Palestinian self-rule signed on Wednesday by Mr. Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the PLO must inform the Israeli government

of the compsition of the team. The 24-strong authority, which will be chaired by Mr. Arafat, was likely to be a coalition of the PLO's mainstream movement Fateh, independents, Yasser Abed-Rabbo's "FIDA" movement and Samir Ghoshe's Palestine Popular Struggle Front, all of which support the peace deal

with Israel.

PLO sources said they expected the authority to include 15 members from the occupied territories - nine from the West Bank and six from the Gaza Strip — and nine from the exiled Palestinian com-

munity. Other sources say they will share the seats half-half. At least four Executive Committee members are likely to be named to the authority: Mr. Abed Rabbo, Mr. Ghoshe, Mohammad Zuhdi Nashashibi (independent, head of the economic department) and Yasser Amr.

The authority would include also at least one woman: Intissar Al Wazir, a Fatch Central Committe member and widow of assassinated Palestinian military chief Khafil Al Wazir Abu

said he expected the autonomy accord would pave the way for a Palestinian state even before the end of the five years allotted to self-rule. "It will be a natural develop-

An adviser to Mr. Arafat

ment of this agreement," the

(Continued on page 3)

## U.S. envoy fears long Yemeni strife

ABU DHABI (R) — Yemen's civil war will be long and bloody unless north and south find a political solution soon, a U.S. diplomat predicted on Sunday.

"New northern units have not made any progress towards Aden in the last day... 24 hours," said Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs Robert Pelletreau. "The southern forces are far from defeated."

Mr. Pelletreau was in Yemen last week as a mediator trying to avert civil war. His remarks to a business breakfast in the United Arab Emirates were the first independent assesment of fighting since Wednesday between northern and southern armies that failed to merge after the country was unified in 1990.

The north said on Saturday its forces were within 20 kilometres of Aden, stronghold of the southern vicepresident, Ali Salem Al Beidh.

Mr. Pelletreau said "welltrained" and "well-led" southern units were putting up "stiff resistance" to northern forces but the north, under President Ali Abdullah Saleh, seemed intent on keeping up the fight-

The initial victories have been on the northern side but in our estimation the southern forces are far from defeated." 'What this indicates is that... if the fighting does not

stop it's going to be protracted and very bloody," he said. There is not a military solution to the Yemen problem. It may be that after another brief period, when the leaders, particularly the northern leaders, realise there's not an easy victory, they will hear the words of the... world," he said. He did not say how far

ZAGREB (R) — Creatia,

Bosnia and Iran hope to form a

joint economic commission

soon, Croatian Prime Minister

Nikica Valentic said after

meeting Iran's foreign minis-

ter, Croatian radio reported on

It said Mr. Valentic discus-

sed tripartite cooperation on

Saturday night in Zagreb with

Iran's Ali Akbar Velayati, who

met Muslim Bosnian govern-

ment leaders in Sarajevo ear-

Mr. Valentic said the meet-

ing was a continuation of talks

he began on a recent visit to

"I think that very soon our three countries will form a

order to make joint appear-

ances in the world, especially... in Islamic countries," he said.

Iran's help and support were

important in implementing the

Washington agreement to set

up a Muslim-Croat federation,

which ended almost a year of

ssion, in

joint economic commi

lier in the day.

northern forces were from Aden. Some northern troops were stationed in the south before fighting began.

Security

Council

divided

on Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -

its most durable adversary.

tions in 1990 as punishment for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The

sanctions stayed in effect after

the Gulf war to force Iraq to

accept a new, U.N.-drawn Kuwaiti border and get rid of its missiles and other weapons

The first open disagreement

among the five permanent members of the Security Coun-

cil came in a sanctions review

in March. Iraq is allowed to import food and medicine but

said that without even a trickle

of the three million barrels of

oil it once sold daily, it could

not afford to buy them. Iraq

of mass destruction.

Mr. Pelletrean said he was discussing with Gulf Arab states how to end the fighting. "The risk of having an inter-

nal chaotic situation, which could be exploited by a country such as Iran, becomes larger, he said. "So there's a real national

interest on the part of Gulf states and in the Arab World and ourselves to end this con-

Iran on Saturday attacked what it said were foreign plots to divide Yemen and offered to help resolve the conflict.

The risk of civilian casualties is large. The risk of an outflow of refugees... is large," he said. "I felt quite lucky to get out of there," Mr. Pellet-

Mr. Pelletreau said Mr. Saleh, whom he met in Sanaa on Wednesday, appeared committed to unity but not in partnership with Mr. Beidh and the southern-led Yemen Socialist Party.

"When I met with (Saleh) it was very clear that the north was going to try to move decisively against the leaders of the Yemen Socialist Party... and he did not see those leaders as part of the future unity government of... Yemen," he said.

by Croatia.

says the sanctions have contri-buted to 400,000 deaths. "I thought that he was The council extended the strongly committed to Yesanctions, but France, Russia men's unity. He just didn't think it was going to be possi-ble with the current leadership of the Yemen Socialist Party. and China wanted to encourage Iraq by issuing a statement acknowledging its progress. The United States and Britain

"I didn't have the sense that President Saleh had his receiv-"There is a serious division ing button turned on when I talked with him. But maybe of views and tactics," said Graham Fuller, a Rand Corp. after a few days that will be the analyst and former Central Incase as the casualties mount.' telligence Agency (CIA) official. "The French and the Rus-Croatia, Bosnia, and Iran sians will have to decide

whether they want to go to the mat with Washingtone on discuss joint commission The Americans want to use the sanctions to stop abuse of war between two of Bosnia's three ethnic factions. Bosnian Iraq's Kurds and southern Shiite Muslims — issues not mentioned in the oil-embargo Croat forces had been backed

resolution.

In Sarajevo, Mr. Velayati France argues the Security said on Saturday his country Council has to stick to its barwould insist on being allowed gain with Iraq, according to the Western diplomats, who spoke to send 10,000 troops to join on condition of anonymity. ing force in Bosnia. That would mean an end to the Speaking after talks in oil embargo if Baghdad accepts Sarajevo with Bosnia President a new Kuwaiti border and Alija Izetbegovic, Mr. satisfies weapons inspectors Velayati said: "We have announced that that it does not have longrange missiles and can't make we are ready to send 10,000

chemical or nuclear weapons. After first resisting U.N. inspectors, sometimes violently, Iraq is actively cooperating, said Rolf Ekeus, head of the

U.N. disarmament team. 'The technical work has been going very well, with good cooperation," Mr. Ekeus said after a trip to Baghdad last week. He said, however, that the work was not finished, and he did not know when it would



**EVACUATED: Some of the 140 United Nations** officials and dependents evacuated to Amman from Sanza, Yemen, apon their arrival at Oneen

## Sifi offers reconciliation talks

PARIS (R) — Algerian Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi said on Saturday that his government would hold talks on ending civil strife with any group that respected the constitution and renounced violence.

Mr. Sifi, interviewed on France-2 television, said the talks would aim to set a framework for new elections to enable Algerians to choose the leaders they wanted.

Asked if his government would hold talks with the out-

lawed fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), he said: "Dialogue is open to all groups and all parties that respect the constitution and the laws of this country and which condemn violence."

Anwar Haddam, the FIS parliamentary leader in exile. said on Friday conditions for talks with the government included recognising the FIS as a political party, releasing political prisoners and committing Algeria to the democratic pro-

Mr. Sifi, appointed on April 11, was asked if he was prepared to free FIS president Abassi Madani and Vice-President Ali Belhadi from jail.

The problem is not whether

we free X or Y. The problem is to talk with all groups and parties and currents... which are against violence," he said. Asked if the FIS would be allowed to take power if it won

elections, he said: "It will be

their future... the responsibil-ity must be left to the people to decide what they want in the framework of credible and free At least 3,500 people have been killed in violence be-

up to the Algerian people to

elect those who will determine

tween guerrillas and the security forces since an army-backed council cancelled a general election in January 1992 in which the FIS had taken a commanding lead.

The government authorised demonstration marches in the main cities on Sunday in support of dialogue between political forces. "This is proof that democracy really exists in Algeria," Mr. Sifi said.

### Perry: U.S.-Israel strategic ties strong

WASHINGTON (USIA) -The U.S.-Israeli strategic relationship is stronger than ever, U.S. Secretary of Defence William Perry said Friday. He was discussing U.S. defence policy during remarks to the 88th annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee (AJC) ield in Washington.

While focusing his prepared remarks on Bosnia and North Korea, the secretary was later asked about the future of the U.S.-Israeli strategic relationship.

"My assessment is that it is as strong as it has ever been," he said, and predicted that the bilateral relationship "is going to deepen."

Taking note that U.S. policy in Bosnia is of particular concern to the American Jewish community, Mr. Perry outlined U.S. objectives there. Many American Jewish groups, along with Arab American organisations, have called for increased U.S. intervention in Bosnia.

"We are in Bosnia today using limited air power with very limited political objectives," the secretary said. "Let me say what our objec-

tive in Bosnia is not: it is not to become a combatant in the war to win a military victory," Mr. Perry told the audience. U.S. policy on Bosnia is focused on three objectives, the secretary said: to acceler-

ate an agreement on the cessation of hostilities; to accelerate establishment of peace agreement: and to limit civilian casualties "to the extent that we can.

To further these objectives, the United States is taking part in NATO efforts to stop the aerial hombardment of cities through the enforcement of a. no-fly zone area; stop the artillery bombardment of cities; and provide air support to United Nations peacekeeping ground forces, Mr. Perry said.

Turning to North Korea, Mr. Perry relayed what the United States has learned thus far about that country's nuclear programme. He said North Korea does have a nuclear reactor "which has been operational for a number of years" and there are two larger reactors now under construc-

North Korea also has "a large reprocessing plant which is capable of taking the spent fuel from the reactor and converting it into weapons grade plutonium," he said. "We cannot come up with a

reasonable explanation for these facilities other than as the front-end of a significant nuclear weapons programme," Mr. Perry said.

"It would take a small amount of weapons-grade plutonium to convert to a (nuclear) bomb. We believe they have the capability to do that and the will to do it, but we don't have concrete evidence precisely of what they have done," the secretary said.

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Palestinians want to keep refugee camps

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - A majority of Palestinians in the occupied territories believe their refugee camps should remain in place until a final settlement is reached with the Israelis, a survey published Sunday showed. More than 58 per cent favoured maintaining the 27 refugee camps over the scheduled five-year interim period of autonomy, the Centre for Palestine Research and Studies found. Half of those nonetheless wanted to see conditions improve in the overcrowded camps of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. However, 39 per cent preferred to transfer the 430,000 camp dwellers to new housing projects. The remainder voiced no opinion in the poll carried out by the Nablus-based centre. About one million Palestinians are registered as refugees with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, but 60 per cent live outside the camps. The April 19 survey found that nearly 37.8 per cent of Palestinians in the territories would vote for Yasser Arafat's Fatch if elections were held to an autonomy council now. In March, the centre's poll registered 36.4 per cent support. Backing for the Islamist groups was stable at about 16 per cent in the latest survey, which questioned 2,006 Palestinians and had a three per cent margin of error.

#### Report: Israel to seek \$5b from U.S.

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel asked the United States for \$5 billion in compensation to offset any security risks it could incur if a withdrawal is made from the Golan Heights as part of a peace agreement with Syria, the Israeli daily Haaretz reported Sunday. Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador to Washington and the chief negotiator with Syria, declined to confirm or deny the report in an interview with army radio. On Friday, Israeli officials confirmed a Haaretz report that Israel asked the United States to provide billions of dollars in military supplies and intelligence equipment.

#### Libyan pilgrims arrive in Egypt by camel

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CAIRO (R) — Libyan pilgrims travelling by camel train because of a U.N. ban on air traffic have crossed the border into Egypt on their way to Saudi Arabia for the annual Muslim pilgrimage. General Hussein Fahmi of the Egyptian police said a caravan of 300 camels and pilgrims crossed at Sollum on Saturday and went to the Egyptian coastal city of Marsa Matrouh, 1,000 kilometres west of Cairo. They will continue to Cairo on their way to Mecca. The pilgrims, in a statement carried by the Libyan news agency JANA, said that, because of the U.N. embargo on flights aimed at pressuring Libya into handing over two suspects in the 1988 Lockerbie airline bombing, they "had no choice other than going on camela."

JANA reported last week that Libyan ships had transported hundreds of pilgrims from neighbouring Algeria to Saudi

#### Latest Turkish crackdown kills 32

ANKARA (AFP) — Thirty-one members of the outlawed Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) and one Turkish soldier were killed in the latest crackdown by security forces in east and southeast Anatolia, officials said Saturday. News of the crackdown came as three bomb blasts rocked Istanbul, injuring one person and causing minor damage in the city's European sector. The security forces launched their operation in the provinces of Bingol, Sirt, Hakkari, Tunceli, Diyarbakir and Adiyaman, officials said in Diyarbakir, from where Ankara is coordinating its anti-separatist campaign against the PKK. The latest deaths occurred across Friday and Saturday, bringing to 77 the death toll from incidents over the past week in the region. At least 1,400 people, more than 1,200 of them PKK fighters, have been killed in clashes since the start of the year according to calculations based on official reports. In all, the clashes have claimed the lives of at least 12,084 people since the PKK began its armed rebellion in August 1984, series of retaliatory measures by the Turkisl military.

#### U.S. tourist stabbed near Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — A Palestinian stabbed and slightly wounded a U.S. tourist near the Jewish settlement of Betar south of Jerusalem, Palestinian sources said. They said the tourist, who was on a visit to Betar, went out for a walk and was attacked in the Palestinian village of Husan. His assailant had fled, the sources said. The tourist, who was not named, was treated in Betar. The Israeli army detained 10 suspects and imposed a curfew on Husan and the nearby Palestinian village of Nahalin, the sources added.

#### Saudis to send Jumbos to fetch Bosnians

SARAJEVO (R) — Saudi Arabia will send two Jumbo jets to Sarajevo to fly 500 Bosnian Muslims to Mecca so they can perform the pilgrimage, a U.N. spokesman said on Sunday. Major Dacre Holloway said the Serbs had agreed to allow the aircraft to fly into Sarajevo provided enough notice was given. Sarajevo airport is under United Nations control, but it lies in no-man's land between Serb and Muslim front lines to the southwest of the city. U.N. sources said there was an element of risk in allowing the giant planes to land at Sarajevo. No dates had yet been set. Last week a German transport aircraft carrying the new German ambassador to Bosnia was hit by three rounds of sniper fire from Serb positions as it came into land. "The sight of two Saudi Jumbos sitting on the tarmac may prove too much of a temptation," said a U.N. source.

#### Former head of Israeli military intelligence dies

TEL AVIV (AP) - Brigadier General Aharon Yariv, who served as head of military intelligence during the 1967 Middle East war, died early Sunday. Yariv, 74, who suffered a stroke last September, served as head of military intelligence from 1964-1972, including the 1967 war. He was born in Moscow in 1920, immigrated to Israel in 1935 and joined the underground Haganah in 1938. The daily Yedioth Ahronoth said that in 1972 Yariv predicted that Egypt would decide to take military action against Israel the following year, when in fact Egypt launched a surprise attack. A member of the ruling Labour Party, Yariv also served as transport minister and information minister. After retiring from military and political life in 1977. Yariv founded and directed the Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

#### Yemenis made to pay the price for their stand during Gulf crisis Gulf states, U.S. envoy Robert

DUBAI (AFP) — Gulf Arab states added fuel to the political crisis which degenerated into a north-south civil war in Yemen, allegedly to punish their neighbour for backing Iraq in the Gulf crisis.

According to Yemeni offi-cials, Sanaa's stand after the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait was still considered by its neighbours in the Arabian peninsula as "a major mistake that is hard to forgive." Yemen spoke up against the

U.S.-led multinational assault based in Saudi Arabia that drove Iraqi troops out of Kuwait in February 1991. Gulf monarchies, and in particular Saudi Arabia, retaliated by cutting their large financial aid package to Yemen, one of the poorest countries in the

troops as peacekeeping forces,

under the flag of the United

Nations. We have not received

any logical and acceptable re-

sponse from the United Na-

The United Nations is short

of troops to fulfil its

peacekeeping and humanita-rian role in Bosnia, but is

relactant to go along with Iran's

longstanding offer because it

fears any Iranian contingent

may be too partisan.

Riyadh also banned Yemeni imports and nearly 800,000 Yemeni workers were deported from the kingdom, depriving Yemen of more than \$2 billion in remittances, according to Sanaa.
Of those who have returned,

tens of thousands still live in wretched camps near the Red Sea port of Hodeida. The oil-rich monarchies moreover have turned a deaf

ear to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh's calls to re-

sume dialogue and launch a

process to integrate Yemen in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia with Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

Riyadh even inflamed the crisis which crupted last August in Yemen, when Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh, a southerner, refused to take up his duties in Sanaa, according to Yemeni officials, speaking in private.

Mr. Beidh demanded that Mr. Saleh, a northerner, agree first to major political, economic and military reforms. "Saudi Arabia has granted

Min./Max. temp.

over the past few months nearly \$40 million to the southerners," a northern official told AFP, accusing Mr. Beidh of seek-ing to redivide the country just four years after unification.

"By supporting the southern separatists, Saudi Arabia gave us the impression that it also wanted Yemen's partition as if it feared having a strong and democratic state along its southern border," he charged. Mr. Saleh and Mr. Beidh were

the respective rulers of the North and South Yemen that merged in a single state in May 1990. In contrast to most Gulf states, their united country has a free press and an elected

parliament. But as war rages in Yemen, the oil-rich countries have started to voice fears over their own interests.

"As the edge of the GCC is on fire, a serious threat faces the southern Red Sea gateway as well as all the entire region," warned the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Siyassah. But GCC mediation to halt

the crisis has so far been "very shy," acknowledged another Kuwaiti daily, Al Rai Al Aam.

Despite the north's advantage on the battlefield, the war could turn into a drawn-out crisis and trigger a flow of refugees into neighbouring

Pelietreau warned on Satur-The assistant secretary of state, who met President Saleh

on Thursday in Sanaa, warned "there is no military solution." Warning of the risks to the oil-rich region, he urged the conservative GCC states to help broker an end to the fighting in Yemen.

The GCC issued a call from Riyadh for a ceasefire and called for both sides to show restraint but Mr. Saleh, apparently scenting victory, ruled out Arab or international intervention to halt the fight-

## JORDAN TELEVISION

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#### **Tcl. 811295** WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of

Temperatures will drop slightly with winds appearing at different altitudes and winds becoming northwesterly light to active. In Aqaba, winds will be portherly moderate and seas calm.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER

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> QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Riyadh (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2) .... Cairo (MS) . Khartoum (SD)

...... Muscat, Abu Dhabi (GF) Rome (AZ)

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

97:00 ..... Beirut (RJ)
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huaz railway train Dep. Amman ...... 8:00 every Monday

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In Egypt by Ca

s travelling by ffic have crossed by Arabia for the annul hmi of the Egyptaptian coastal city of of Cairo. They wile The pilgrims, in 122 by JANA, said that h med at pressuring in the 1988 Lockerie ther than going or a abyan ships had tra shbouring Algeria

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## U.S. announces 1995 immigrant visa lottery

AMMAN (J.T.) — The U.S. include: the applicant's full Government recently name (family name first, underlined); the date of birth announced a visa lottery programme under which a specific (day, month, year) and the place of birth (city, country) number of permanent resident visas will be awarded in 1995 to for both the applicant and for eligible persons from areas of the spouse or any unmarried the world that have low imchildren under 21 years of age migration rates to the United who might also wish to immigrate; the applicant's full mailing address; the applicant's na-The visas awarded to wintive country if it differs from ners in the draw will be the country of birth; and the apportioned among six geog-

applicant's telephone number raphic regions: Africa, Asia, in Jordan, if available. Europe, North America, The sheet of plain paper containing the above informa-About 6,000 visas will be tion must be put in a regular awarded to winning applicants letter or business envelope from Asia, the geographic re-gion that extends from Bilad which must be between 15 cm to 25 cm in length and between Al-Sham to all North Pacific cm to 11 cm in width. Islands, including Indonesia.

To participate in the lottery,

The upper left hand corner of the front of the envelope must have the applicant's native country, followed on the next lines by the applicant's full name and full mailing address.
The envelope should be cor-

rectiv addressed to the exact numerical postal ZIP code covering the region of the world of which the applicant is a native. It is important to use the correct postal "ZIP" code when you type or write the address of the region. Applications should be

DV-1 Program National Visa Center Portsmouth, N.H. 00210

Applications must be received in the United States by regular airmail. Letters received by any other special or registered mail or delivery system such as express mail or messenger service will be dis-

Letters must be received at the correct address in the U.S. between June 1 and June 30, 1994. Any letter received before or after this period will also be discarded.

Machine-readable visas

The U.S. Embassy in Amman also announced that it will begin issuing a new type of "machine-readable" visa as of Monday.

Previously issued visus which have not yet expired will continue to be valid and do not need to be replaced. This is not a change in the standards of eligibility for U.S.

The new machine-readable visas will incorporate a picture of each traveller.

visas which will remain the

A current photograph of each applicant, including children, will be required with all visa applications.

Applicants with family members listed in their passports should also be aware that each traveller will require a separate visa on a separate passport

### Conflict resolution symposium begins Majali urges cooperation by government heads AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Organised by the Institute of

Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday urged heads of government departments and secretaries general of various ministries to work jointly for the common national interest and help their country cope with what he called "strategic developments" currently being witnessed by the Middle East

region. Jordan is facing immense challenges far greater than those encountered in the past, and it is incumbent on heads of government offices to transcend personal differences and work in unison for the common goal, said the prime minister in opening a five-day symposium entitled "Strategic Manage-ment and Conflict Resolu-

Public Administration in cooperation with the U.S. institution Search For Common Ground, the symposium is designed to enable the public administration institutions in Jordan to promote coordination and encourage creative elements to help development, according to the organisers.

The peace process is expected to bring about many changes and developments in the region which will eventually have a major impact on strategies, thinking methods of decision-making and institutional management, said the prime

A Middle East peace with all that it entails in development



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday presides over the opening of a five-day meeting on "Strategic Management and Conflict Resolution" (Petra photo)

at various levels should motivate Jordanian institutions to upgrade their performance at the social, economic and admi-

He said that the participants

nistrative levels, said Dr. Main the symposium are called on

ment, management of water resources and services, handling of the state's funds and information, the decentralisation programme as well as the impact of peace on Jordan and neighbouring states. At the outset of the meeting held at the Royal Scientific

to discuss strategic issues re-lated to institutional manage-

Society, Zuheir Al Kayed, director general of the Institue of Public Administration, reviewed the general topics to be discussed by the participants over the coming five days, noting that social, economic, technological and political issues related to their offices will be reviewed and advanced means of overcoming problems would be discussed.

#### Panel begins work on converting JEA into commercial entity official. "The marked differ-

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - A committee is preparing the groundwork to convert the status of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) from an autonomous authority to that of a commercial entity operating under the Companies Law, a senior JEA official said Sunday.

The proposed change of status comes in line with a recommendation by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, which are supervising an economic restructuring programme aimed at optimum utilisation of resources and optimum accountability of state-owned entities.

The World Bank and the Japanese government are providing two loans of \$80 million

each to improvise the Kingdom's energy sector and increase efficiency.

Walid Jaouni, deputy director-general of the JEA, said the committee, which includes representatives of concerned departments, started work following a decision by the Council of Ministers about a month ago to change the status of the authority, which is

burdened with heavy debts. We will have a better picture of the situation in a few weeks time as the committee gets ahead in its work," Mr. Jaouni told the Jordan Times. In general, there will be a change in the methods of operations and administration, be

The change in status is expected to be completed before the end of this year.

At present, JEA functions under the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources and, by virtue of its monopoly in the energy sector, is linked with many other ministries and government departments. The net government equity in the authority stood at JD79 million at the end of 1993.

Under the government decision, the authority will be transformed as a full commercial entity with operational independence, but there will not be any change of ownership since the government already owns the entity.

"The idea is to convert the company as a public shareholding company under the Companies Law," said a senior

ence the entity will have with other public shareholding companies is all its shares will be owned by the government." This would mean, among

other things, full accountability of power used by all government departments, which will have to set aside specific allocations for settling their dues to the new entity. Under present arrange-

ments, many government de-partments have little, if any, accounting for power consumption and entries in books are adjusted against dues from and payments to the JEA.

Demand for electricity in the Kingdom is estimated to have grown by an average of 7.5 per

Like Royal Jordanian, the national carrier, which is on its way to eventual privatisation. the JEA is also ranked as a profit-generating entity, but debts are straining the company's resources and wiping out operational profits.

The JEA's total assets are estimated at JD339 million. The authority, which employs around 2,100 people, posted gross revenues of about JD110 million in 1993, of which JD108 million came from energy sales. It posted an operational profit in 1993, but the cost of debt servicing and a write-off against part of accumulated losses — estimated around JD28 million deprived it of net profit. Final figures for the year have not been released yet.

#### WHAT'S **GOING** ON

Oceania and South America.

applicants must have at least a

high school education or its

equivalent or two years of

work experience within the

past five years in an occupation

that requires at least two years

Application is free. There is

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of training or experience.

no special form.

FILMS

"Don Juan, Mi Querido Fantasma" at the Spanish Cultural Centre at 6:30 p.m. (Tel. 613077).

Chilean film entitled "La Estación Del Regreso'' (The Return Stop) at the main theatre of the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m. (84 minute).

★ Film entitled "Les Lizisons Dangereuses" at the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

#### BALLET

☆ Ballet performance by Al-Ahliya School for Girls theatre of the Royai Cultural Centre at 4:00

#### LECTURE

★ Lecture in Arabic entitled "The Political and Economic Aspects of Liberal Democracy' by Dr. Hazem Al Bilawi at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 6:00 p.m.

#### ARAB POETS **GATHERING**

☆ Poetry recital by Arab poets at the Phoenix Gal-lery for Art and Culture at 7:00 p.m. (Tel. 695291).

**EXHIBITIONS** 

★ Exhibition of Ikebana the traditional Japanese art of flower arranging at the Marriott Hotel.

☆ Exhibition of water colour paintings by artist Itab Hreib and another exhibition of ceramics by Sajida Elmeshiekhi at Ain Art Gallery in Wadi Saqra (Tel. 644451, 652823).

★ Exhibition by artist Helmi El-Touni at Baladna Art Gallery (Tel. 687598).

★ Spring exhibition of "Artists Expressions in Wool," the Bani Hamida project of art works and rugs at the Jordan Contractors Association Building in Abdoun (Tel.

"Spring Exhibition" (quilts, cushions, lamp shades,...etc) at the Zawaideh villa, opposite the Contractor's Association in Abdoun (Tel.

☆ Exhibition of silk paintings by artist Sound Nemeh Akrouk at the Royal

Cultural Centre. ★ Exhibition of paintings by artists Walid Sheet and. Nazem Hamed at Alia Art

Gallery (Tel. 639303). Art exhibition by Bashar Ibrahim at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Art exhibition by five Egyptian artists at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Founda-tion in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).

#### Waldheims visit NHF, RSS

AMMAN (J.T.) — Visiting former Austrian president Kurt Waldheim and his wife Sunday visited Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) and met with lnam Mufti, Her Majesty Queen Noor's advisor on development, planning and international relations for the founda-tion and NHF staff. Dr. Waldheim was briefed on the foundation's projects in various parts of the Kingdom, and he expressed apprecia-tion of NHF's endeavours. Ms. Mufti said that NHF was maintaining close cooperation with international organisations and U.N. agencies which continue to provide the foundation with technical and materia assistance. Dr. Waldheim and his accompanying delegation also Sunday visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and met its President Hani al Mulki and his senior assistants.



The realism of Nazem Hamed

## Fervent followers of classical realism

By Ian Atalla Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - The land of Iraq, and Baghdad in particular, is known for having developed a level of excellence in the arts and culture rarely equalled by its Arab neighbour countries, and it is probably fair to say that the technical level of mastery on paint and canvasdisplayed by the Iraqi painters Walid Sheet and Nazem Hamed in at the Alia Art Gallery in

Amman exemplifies such ex-"Technique itself is a big thing for me," says Mr. Sheet, "Sometimes you can have an excellent idea or concept for a painting — but if your technique is not topnotch, you will fail to communicate that idea to your viewer in its full strength." The two artists, who are for the most part fervent followers of classical realism, said that they chose to exhibit their works together because

they share a similar artistic style and focus. If they could be criticised for one thing, it is that in their strict quest for classical and technical perfection. neither artist seems to have developed a particularly definite original imprint he could

call his own. "Mr. Hamed and myself both believe that realism is the base," explained Mr. Sheet in defence. An artist who has mastered the realistic style and its demanding challenges, he said, will have acquired the capabilities to pursue any other style or concept which he wishes, "but on the other hand, you see many abstract artists who can do very good work -- but they cannot do a realistic

Their works in this exhibition are in the main, traditional, romantic Middle Eastern subjects - the desert, the streets of the old town quarters, bedouins and villagers of Iraq, and that most traditional and primeval of all Middle Eastern symbols the horse.

"As a child,' says Mr. Hamed, "I lived in the countryside, and my grandfather owned many horses, so I grew up with them," and ever since, he says, he has been moved by their inherent nobility, action and dynam-

ism of shape and motion. Above all other subjects which he paints, said Mr. Hamed, "it is the desert which particularly inspires me — it never fails to give me a feeling of freedom and strength.

The exhibition of the two artists' work, which opened on May 4, will continue through May 11.,

#### tries for the final religious rites preceding the Eid Al Adha

Pilgrims arrive in Medina

AMMAN (J.T.) - All Jordanian pilgrims heading for Mec-ca for this year's Haj have now arrived in Medina and are all reported in good health, according to Mohammad Kha-tib, head of the pilgrimage mission accompanying this year's groups from the King-Mr. Khatib said some of the

have been visiting the medical clinic affiliated to the mission and were provided with the poropriate medical treatmen by the physicians there.
According to Mahmoud Al
Shahed, head of the medical team, there are no Jordanian pilgrims requiring hospitalisa-tion, and if so, arrangements have been made to admit them

pilgrims, most of them elderly,

to hospitals in Mecca or Medi-Dr. Shahed is teamed with an integrated group of specialists and general practitioners

and nurses accompanying the pilgrims to all the holy sites to be visited during the pilgrimMecca where they will join up with pilgrims from other coun-(feast of sacrifice) expected on May 20. The Ministry of Awqaf and

pilgrims would stay in Medina

for five days before heading to

Islamic Affairs has made arrangements for transporting the pilgrims by buses supplied by 73 local transport companies and has arranged also for their lodging in Medina and

According to the ministry, Muslim countries can send pilgrims to Mecca at the rate of 1,000 for every million inhabitants in implementation of a resolution taken by a meeting of the Organisation of Islamic

Countries (OIC).

A ministry official here declined to give the actual number of pilgrims going to Mecca this year, but he noted that the quota of pilgrims for Jordan normally includes those from the occupied Palestinian lands in addition to those from the

#### age. Mr. Khatib said that the PLO delays naming authority

(Continued from page 1)

adviser, Ahmad Tibi, told Israel army radio from Tunis. Mr. Rabin is opposed to the creation of an independent Palestinian state. Mr. Rabin's Labour Party favours an eventual confederation between Jordan and the Palestinian en-

'No refugee numbers' Israel has not made any promises to the PLO on how many Palest nians displaced in the 1967 Middle East war will be allowed to return, an Israeli negotiator said Saturday.

Negotiations on the return of refugees are to begin next months, and Israel's right-wing opposition has voiced fears that the result will be a massive influx of Palestinia ... to the

West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israeli negotiator Yoel Singer said the accord signed in Cairo calls for the establishment of a committee to deal with the 1967 refugees. Israel, the Palestinians, Jordan and Egypt will send representa-

tives.
Asked whether Israel had committed itself to any numbers of eligible returnees, Mr. Singer told Israel Radio: "None

whatsoever. According to Israeli figures, some 200,000 Palestinians fied in the war, while the PLO says some 875,000 could be eligible to return.



#### \* Arabic courses for foreigners on 15/5/1994 to be held twice a week, Sunday and Tuesday from 4 - 6 p.m.

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#### اماكن بيع التذاكر

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### **Atmosphere for results**

THE HITHERTO long-awaited 11th session of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee ended Friday on a "happy note" when Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and his Egyptian counterpart Atef Sedki signed the minutes of the two-day

The agenda of the meeting covered a wide range of topics that included, inter alia, the "endorsement" of the Cairo PLO-Israel accord on limited self-rule in Gaza and Jericho after describing the ceremony as a step in the direction of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the area. This much was expected of the two sides since Cairo has not only hosted the signing of the PLO-Israeliagreement but, to a considerable extent, brokered it

Jordan's decision to attend the signing ceremony signified its "acceptance" of the deal even though we were not highly impressed by its terms, to say

But where the meeting between the two prime ministers seems to break new ground is over the extent of cooperation in the economic, transport, education, energy and tourism fields.

Take for example the agreement to create a task force to draw up a joint mechanism to deal with, and presumably agree on, regional and international economic concerns. This is indeed a real challenge and judging by the tone of the agreement on it, Amman and Cairo have only committed themselves to develop a futuristic approach to it. The same treatment was accorded to the future course of the Egyptian-Jordanian Company for Investment and Development. As for the 1992 commercial protocol, the two parties again agreed to pursue its goal without indicating how exactly. Even when it came to the list of items that would be exempted from customs, both prime ministers merely agreed that a joint trade committee would meet in two months' time to put the final touches on such a list.

More or less, the same rhetoric characterised the agreements on the other subjects be they on industrial integration, energy sharing and development, agriculture cooperation, the Arab Maritime Bridge Company, exchange of students at the university level or tourism. Perhaps it was too much to expect the two prime ministers to come up with more concrete agreements since the detailed and technical work necessary for any such pacts would need much more than two working days.

What is possible to achieve, and quickly, however, is a new Egyptian initiative towards facilitating travel by Jordanians into Egypt, whether for tourism, study or business. Many Jordanians have been and still are treated in the most unfriendly ways by Egyptian authorities at entry points to that country, according to eyewitness and press reports heard and published here. This type of treatment does not reciprocate that received by tens of thousands of Egyptians at border points in this country. We therefore urge our brothers in Egypt to rectify this injustice promptly and, in the future, not to let political disputes have their toll on ordinary citizens from either country.

#### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RAT Arabic daily Sunday criticised the Arab League for failing to take firm steps to deal with the Yemeni civil war in which it has caused wide scale destruction and immense loss of life. The Arab League should have taken practical and immediate steps to end the fighting and convene a meeting between the leaders of the north and south Yemen to discuss the situation, said the daily. Jordan played an active role alone at the start of the dispute between the Yemeni leaders and tried hard and sometimes unassisted to put an end to differences in views, said the daily. It said that Jordan's efforts should have been followed up by the Arab League which is largely responsible for maintaining brotherly ties among Arab states and for keeping the peace in the Arab World. It is saddening to see the Yemeni leaders' differences going out of control and exploding into a war which can only destroy Yemen and the Yemeni people, said the daily. It expressed hope that these leaders would soon resort to reason and accept mediation of honest Arabs to find a lasting solution to their

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday criticised are trade protocol signed by Jordan and Egypt Friday as limiting the scope of trade between the two countries. Tareq Masarweh said that two neighbouring and sister states should have open borders and free trade similar to trade either country conducts with other nations of the world. The writer said that regardless of the nice words used by the two sides at their meetings and the press conference summing up the deliberations of the Higher Joint Committee, Jordanian nationals continue to receive mistreatment by the Egyptian authorities at airports and Nuweibeh in Sinai during their travel to and from Egypt, he pointed out.

## The slow march of peace

By Valerie Yorke

THE KILLING by a fanatical Jewish settler of 29 Palestinians at the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron in February led to the suspension of negotiations by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and gravely complicated the already troubled Middle East peace process. The Hebron massacre, followed by the killing of Palestinians by Israeli soldiers in the ensuing confusion and then the hardships of curfew and the closure of the occupied territories, further undermined the dwindling credibility of the PLO leadership and increased the sense of disillusion among Palestinians with a peace process which had brought no tangible gain and threatened to increase the dangers to them. The view was widespread that the peace process had been derailed.

However, the Hebron tragedy may also have had an unintended, positive affect in the sense that it has forced the intractable issue of Jewish settlements onto the Israeli-Palestinian and international agendas and provided a timely reminder that dangerous fanaticism is to be found among Israelis as well as the Palestimans. The international community has been compelled to act to get the PLO back to negotiations and is committed to help provide security guarantees for the Palestinians

under occupation. In the process, it is having to confront the difficulty of sustaining momentum behind a process based on an accord which, both in its political and its economic aspects, reflects the asymmetries between the militarily powerful Israel and the Palestinians and is skewed in favour of the stronger party. As Israel, with the help of the U.S. administration, sought to entice the PLO back to the talks, the requirement was for a formula which did not further weaken the position of the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, in the occupied territories, but which permitted Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to argue that the Declaration of Principles (DoP) adopted at the start of the present round of negotiations remains intact.

Against the backdrop of the resulting Hebron agreement providing for an international observer force in the city, and Israelis by extremist Palestinians in Ashod, Afula and Hadera, escalating in violence on both sides, and the indefinite closure of the West Bank and Gaza, can fresh momentum be injected into the peace talks? Can the peace process currently under way satisfy Israeli and Palestinian minimum demands and lead to an overall settlement?

#### From Madrid to Oslo

The convening of the Mad-rid peace conference in October 1991 represented a breakthrough in a long history of effort to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem, and as such constituted a significant achievement for the U.S. administration. It established the principle of direct negotiations and was the first time that all the Arab parties (including the Palestinians) sat round the negotiating table. The 22 months of talks that followed also produced achievements which were neither foreseeable nor guaranteed and still remain barely acknowledged. The Palestinians won tacit American and Israeli acceptance of the PLO as their decision-making authority and Israel's formal acquiescence in the participation of diaspora Palestimans in the multilateral talks. The parties became acquainted with each other's perceptions, sensitivities, goals and "bot-tom-lines". For Israel, progress on the multilateral track exceeded wildest expectations. Indeed, the Madrid process, both in bilateral and in multilateral forums, helped to create the environment which gave birth to the Oslo channel and contributed to the framework for the international aid effort to the Palestinians - now viewed as vital for

continued momentum. Yet despite the hopes generated by the ceremony of Madrid and the election of a Labour-led government in Israel in 1992, the talks had ground to a halt by summer 1993 after 11 rounds. There were serious flaws in the process. The Madrid terms of reference reflected Israeli conditions for negotiations and amounted to humiliating concessions by the Palestinians, who were weak in the aftermath of Iraq's defeat and the collapse of the Soviet Union. The formal goal of the process was a comprehensive peace. but the terms of reference

separate bilateral tracks, thereby enabling Israel potentially to play one Arab party against another; the different timing of the Palestinian-Israeli talks -Israel and the Palestinians were to negotiate a transitional phase without knowing the destination of the process while Jordan, Syria and Lebanon were to conclude a final settlement with Israel as quickly as possible - further undermined the principle of comprehensivity. Despite its commitment in its letter of assurance to the Palestinians 'to act as an honest broker', the Bush administration showed little inclination to help the parties to agree. The ultimate authority of the PLO, which was barred from direct participation, de-tracted from the legitimacy of the Palestinian negotiators who could not make concessions. These short-comings produced stalemate at the Washington talks and convinced Israeli and PLO leaders when they were both ready for serious negotiations in spring 1993 — to use the separate channel already secretly established in Norway for direct talks between the PLO

#### The Oslo breakthrough

Following eight months of secret, parallel talks in Oslo and elsewhere, Israel and the PLO unexpectedly reached agreement in August on limited Palestinian self-government in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho. The signing of the Declaration of les in Washington on Sept. 13, 1993 was preceded by mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel - a monumental breakthrough in Israel's relations with the Palestinians and in Middle East politics. In recognising the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians, Yitzhak Rabin's government not only recognised the Palestimians inside and outside the occupied territories as a national grouping with a right to leadership, but also that the struggle between the Palestinians and Israel over the same land lies at the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The historic handshake between sworn enemies carried an emotional appeal that breathed new life into the stalled peace talks. The key to the Oslo formula's success was the parties' understanding that they would have to create their own dynamic — the stalemated Washington talks had demonstrated that negotiations do not necessarily take on a momentum of their own. The PLO and Israel recognised that a fresh step was required on their part - reciprocal, deliberate and public --- towards reconciliation representing a commitment both by Palestinian and by Israeli leaderships to peace. But there were other factors that contributed to the

deal's timing:

— The Washington talks, where the participants were inserting demands that prodded the Oslo negotiators into finding an alternative formula:

- The replacement in Israel in 1992 of Yitzhak Shamir's government with its ideological commitment to the land of Israel by a Labour-led government, whose leaders were committed to accelerating the

peace process;

— The weakening position of the PLO which faced financial collapse and international marginalisation as a result of Arafat's support for Saddam

And the diplomatic skills of the Norwegian team. While mutual recognition marked a historic turning-point in their relations, the Israeli and PLO leaderships had, in effect, embarked on a political gamble. The process they started in signing the DoP was based on a shared vision of hope for the future which had to be transferred to their own publics and to Arab neighbours - both leaders and people - and to gain their support if the process was to continue. The declaration aims to establish 'a Palestinian interim selfgovernment authority, the elected council, for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for a transitional period not exceeding five years leading to a permanent settlement based on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338'. Thus the agreement, widely praised as the best that could be achieved at the time, is not a peace accord but a declaration of principles, providing a framework for further negotiated agreements and a tight timetable for implementation. The scope of the principles, both ambiguous and limited enough to permit the parties to agree to them. inevitably contained the seeds

of future difficulties.

The declaration only concerns interim self-government — a first phase in a two-phase settlement — and as such leaves the most controversial questions of the Jewish settlements, refugees, Jerusalem and the final status of the occupied territories to be negotiated in the 1996-99 period. And while the text mentions U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, no interpretation is offered, thereby allowing each party to continue to interpret those resolutions differently. These ambiguities have created strong opposition among Israeli rightwingers who see the accord as a sell-out because its logical conclusion, they believe, will be a Palestinian state; and quite apart from Hamas and the Palestinian rejectionists in Damascus who oppose the whole Madrid process — a growing number of Arafat loyalists also criticise it because it does not include an Israeli renunciation to its claim to the occupied territories and has provided Israel with time to consolidate the settlements. In short, the Palestinians fear that the DoP's implementation will diminish chances of gaining control over their land.

The implementation of the DoP is therefore the test. Both sides know that putting flesh on the bones of the outline agreement will influence the shape of the permanent settlement. The PLO wants to ensure that no step is taken that forecloses its goals of an independent state. It wants to secure symbols and some elements of sovereignty which might make this outcome more likely, and in the present provide hope to Palestinians of a better future, thereby shoring up their support. Israel insists that its security needs are met, while seeking to ensure that a future Palestinian entity is joined in confederation with Jordan. The PLO wants to break out of the mould of two phases and introduce an element of final status negotiation, but Israel insists on phasing, as a form of trial, before moving on. Thus the peace talks have become a contest.

The commdown is this. PLO and Israeli leaders both want momentum towards peace to

President Bill Clinton across the White House lawn to make their symbolic handshake, the impression conveyed was one of adversary partners invested in a process of reconciliation. Mutual recognition signalled reciprocity. For a brief moment the international community was reminded that for all Israel's military strength, it has only won battles and not the war, that the Arab parties remain undefeated, with unresolved grievances; and that as a result of the intifada Israel had recognised that the political question of the Palestinians was not amenable to a military solution. Peace would have to be negotiated. On this analysis, neither the Madrid peace talks nor the talks stemming from Oslo con-

stitute a normal peace confer-

ence where the winners invite

the losers to discuss settlement

terms. Instead, a resolution of

the differences of the undefeated parties is expected to involve concessions by both sides. However, in its talks with the Palestinians Israel holds all the cards. It has the advantage of being a state and a formidable military power backed by the United States whose leadership can turn to democratic institutions through which to conduct a dialogue with the body politic. It controls Palestinian territory and the daily lives of its inhabitants. Yasser Arafat's starting point is much weaker. The PLO is a liberation movement - with no military clout and economically bankrupt trying to achieve statchood, its leadership is still based outside the territories of a future Palestinian entity, while the people it represents are partly inside and partly scattered in the diaspora. As the Madrid terms of reference, the DoP and its economic protocols and the February Cairo accord make clear, negotiations within the context of this asymmetrical relationship have served to strengthen Israel and to put the PLO at a clear disadvan-

The fact is that, although Prime Minister Rabin's Labour Party has made the unthinkable decision to negotiate peace on the basis of territorial

After Hebron, Mr. Rabin's dilemma is more acute, partly because the domestic public mood against settlers is becoming more hardline while the settlers themselves are staking out their own

be maintained but know tangible benefits must be won for their constituencies if they are to maintain support. However, both are aware that their scope for manoeuvre in making the compromises necessary to reassure each other and maintain momentum is circumscribed by the need to maintain credibility with their supporters and to minimise opposition to the process. The expectation that the

negotiations would involve hard bargaining and brinkmanship over continuing irreconcilable demands meant that the difficulties encountered from the outset of the Taba talks last October came as no surprise. Divergent views on who would maintain control of international border crossings into the autonomous Palestinian areas, the security to be provided for Jewish settlers, the size of Jericho, and the timing of the release of political prisoners emanated in part from the ambiguities in, and omissions from, the DoP, but also from negotiating tactics. The talks assumed a pattern chequered by mini-crises as each side jockeyed for posi-tion. The flagging process was sustained when Yasser Arafat acquiesced in most of Israel's demands on security issues in a partial agreement reached in Cairo in February, thereby paving the way for final details to be worked out on Israeli military withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho.

Those details were worked out in Cairo before the signing

of the self-rule accord last Wednesday. In the wake of the Hebron massacre, the PLO had no choice but to suspend the talks. After five months of negotiations, the process had failed to produce tangible results; it was increasingly vulnerable to critics and had been described by Arafat himself as losing credibility. The effect of the massacre and its aftermath has been to underscore the structural problems inherent in the process and the need for these to be addressed if negotiations are to result in the conclusion of stable agreements.

The problem of asymmetry When Yasser Arafat and

compromise, the Israeli government has made no such commitment, and if left to itself is under no pressure to make concessions that would come near to the minimum requirements of the Palestinians. This leaves Yasser Arafat with the unpalatable choice of either agreeing to Israeli terms; or engaging in protracted talks to wrest mainly symbolic gestures, which was the position until the Hebron Mosque massacre; or rejecting Israeli positions and postponing the negotiations until Israel unilaterally makes more substantial concessions — the tactic adopted after Hebron to try and gain protection for the Palestinians in line with U.N. Security Council Resolution

#### The challenge for the **Palestinians**

This leads to the related problem of the weakness of the PLO and Israeli leaderships. Common to both Palestinian and Israeli negotiators is the tension between the competing needs to reassure each other of their commitment to the process and to maintain the support of their own domestic constituents. In theory Israel, as the stronger party, has more scope for manoeuvre in forging the balance. In practice, however, the Palestinians have little to give, while Israel is also reluctant to concede more than the mutual recognition agreed. With both leaderships anxious to maintain momentum behind the process in which they have so great a stake. Israel has been adept at talking tough and getting its way. The result has been to diminish support for the peace process in the occupied territories as well as the PLO's standing there at a time when the prospect of a political transition has exacerbated long-standing criticism of Mr. Arafat's leadership, generated fierce debate within the Palestinian body politic on the form of governance in a Palestinian entity, and unleashed a power struggle within the Palestinian movement.

Acknowledging that the implementation of the DoP represents a special challenge for the Palestinians, Nabil Shaath, a leading PLO negotiator, has

will be the Palestinians' ability to implement it on the ground — to cater to the public's needs, to provide governance, assure national unity and provide economic opportunities and social justice. But many Palestinians would argue that the PLO is failing to effect the transition as depicted by Dr. Shaath, and that the fault lies with Mr. Arafat. The scale and public manifestations of the criticism have caused growing concern. - The protest has its roots

in the way the PLO chairman pushed the accord through PLO institutions, and a general concern that the implementation of self-rule as provided for in the DoP is laying the ground for a new system of Israeli control rather than for Palestinian independence — unless the PLO can gain more areas of control than originally set out for it (which it did not). Doubts as to Arafat's ability to achieve this, underscored by the conclusion of the February Cairo accord — regarded by most Palestinians as representing a capitulation to Israeli terms - have widened opposition against him, even among those who originally supported the DoP. The dissidents want to see better planning for the talks and the involvement of all Palestinians in the building of the Palestinian national au-

— Dissent over Mr. Arafat's autocratic leadership is not new, but the public form it has recently taken is unprecedented. The Chairman's critics sense that he is incapable of discarding the mentality of a revolutionary leader in favour of the pragmatic governance required to build a state, and that his failure to adapt could cost the Palestinians this historic opportunity. Mr. Arafat's apparent determination to hold on to the reins of power, his reluctance to delegate authority to newly established institutions, such as the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECDAR), his use of the power of appointment to coopt factions through patronage and his habit of playing senior PLO officials off against each other are all cited as undermining national unity and damaging to the task of state-building.

- The growing dissent is reflected in the power-struggle under way within Fatch, be-tween Fatch and other political groups, and between PLO leaders in Tunis and those in the occupied territories. The political manoeuvring and rivalries are all symptomatic of the changing nature of Palestinian politics since Oslo and reflect the political ambitions of members of the Palestinian political class as they seek to adapt.

As a result of this severe

friction in the Palestinian body

politic, many Palestinians

agree that the unintended con-

sequence of the Oslo accord

and the internal debate it has triggered may be to undermine the Palestinians' ability and commitment to achieve an independent state. Two schools of thought have emerged on how to avoid such an outcome. The first, to which Yasser Arafat undoubtedly belongs, argues that institution-building in the occupied territories - to enable the Palestinians to maintain public order when the Israeli army withdraws, to ssume the functions of the civil administration, and to administer and deliver the benefits of the reconstruction programme — should take priority over organisational reforms. These measures, this school argues, will lay the embryonic structures of a state and are crucial if the Palestinians are to experience an alleviation of the repression of the occupation and an improved standard of living. It is also the case that they will be important to the PLO's ability to handle the transition and will shape Israel's perception of the risks involved in continuing the process. A second school argues that, in the absence of internal reform, the PLO will be unable to develop a coherent negotiating strategy and as a result of their weakness will be pressed into making more concessions to Israel, thereby sacrificing all hope of winning a state. The Hebron massacre has

#### The Israeli dilemma

severely aggravated all aspects

of the PLO's internal crisis,

heightened the risks to Mr.

Arafat (who is now widely

regarded to have lost touch

with his people and thus his

legitimacy) and complicated

his options in the peace pro-

The assumption of power by Yitzhak Rabin's government in June 1992 marked a turning in Israel's politics away from the ideological commitment of the

Likud government towards the land of Israel to the pragmatic policies of Labour favouring territorial compromise. This transformation of power reflected a shift in balance between the two Zionisms, the assertive revisionist and the progressive liberal - into which Israel's politic is broadly divided, as Israelis come to terms with the implications of the end of the cold war and the second Gulf war. Meanwhile, the debate triggered by the Palestinian intifada over what kind of Israel its people wanted had turned in favour of the vision that Mr. Rabin's party stood for — the return of most of the occupied territories in

exchange for peace. Direct talks with the PLO and the resulting Oslo accord represented pragmatic steps in the pursuit of this vision and reflected Mr. Rabin's recognition that the Palestinian issue was not amenable to a military solution. They did not, however, reveal his ultimate intentions or preferred option for & the West Bank and Gaza, since negotiations on permanent status are postponed until the second phase, and Israel's goal is left undefined. The fact is that Mr. Rabin has embarked on talks with the PLO because he was convinced by military advisers that this was in Israel's security interest while it was clear that the diplomatic and economic benefits would be considerable. None the less, security considerations contime to circumscribe his room

for manoeuvre. As a result of his long military and diplomatic career, Mr... Rabin, like many of his generation, views the Arabs in terms of the military threat they represent. This outlook, combined with close ties with the Gush Emunim settler movement which enjoys widespread support among secular Zionists, who attach importance to security, explains his pragmatic caution and deep reluctance to make an unequivocal step to relinquish land. Most crucially, the fact that Israel's territorial boundaries were never decided in 1948 and that there is still no consensus on what its territorial identity should be means that the consequences of Mr. 4. Rabin's government attempting to move ahead of public opinion on the settlements issue would be highly divisive.

For Israel, the handshake on

the White House lawn amounted to recor mition that Israel and the Palestinians were destined to live on the same land and that there was no viable alternative to ending. the occupation if Israel was to. endure as a democratic Jewish state. However, Israel's negotiating stance reflects more than an alleged domestic requirement for strict phasing totest Palestinian intentions. The lack of an Israeli consensus: over how much land to giveback, and under that terms, makes it imperative to leave to later the controversial issues of Jewish settlements and borders, the resolution of which would necessitate a clarification of Israel's territorialboundaries. So divided is Israel on this issue — both for security and ideological reasons that any leader is likely to postpone indefinitely any definition which could precipitate a traumatic period in Israeli 4

After Hebron, Mr. Rabin's dilemma is more acute, partly. because the domestic public; mood against settlers is becoming more hardline while the settlers themselves are staking: out their own position. Mr. Rabin still feels that he only has fragile hold on his constituency and that he therefore cannot afford to allow the DoP to be tampered with lest this signal to Israelis that the issue of settlements and thus final? borders is now on the negotiating table. From the start Israel's alleged requirement. for phased implementation of self-rule ran counter to Mr. Arafat's need to secure tangible benefits for Palestinians. under occupation and for an acceleration towards final status negotiations. Thus, in response to Hebron, Mr. Rabin called for an acceleration of negotiations on the Gaza-Jericho withdrawal agreement, but his continuing sense of constraint would still appear to rule out any response to the Palestinians' declared need to renegotiate the basis of the DoP or even a substantive gesture such as a commitment to move early on the most provocative of Jewish settlements out of Arab towns - that might strengthen Mr. Arafat and help him out of his corner.

The above is the first of a two-part article which is reprinted from the May editionof The World Today. The article was written before the signing of the self-rule agreement in Cairo Wednesday.

## Palestinians disappointed

(Continued from page 1)

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Prossing into the West Bank from the King Hussein Bridge. "There is no Palestimian police force," said Mr. Sherif, evidently disappointed.

Indeed for most of the 270 PNSF members stuck at the Madinat Al Hujaj between the Jordanian bus station and

the King Hussein Bridge, their inability to cross the bridge seemed a "cruel joke," as one PNSF veteran of the 1982 Lebanon war called it.

"It may be just as well because we don't even have our uniforms yet," said Colonel Mahmoud Gharbawi, one of the three high-ranking

### Morale high among policemen

(Continued from page 1)

among those to return to part of their homeland until Friday night, Col. Badwan told the Jordan Times under the blazing Jordan Valley sun.

"I left my homeland on this very bridge in 1967, have fought ever since to return, and now I am returning in peace," the officer said excitedly.

Col. Badwan, like many of his comrades in arms, have fought and won against Israel in the Jordan Valley town of Karameh in 1967, fought against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and trained to fight in different Arab countries. He said he was

glad to finally go home. The officer, from the West Bank town of Beitin near Ramallah, left his wife and five children behind on the East Bank, but who will later follow him in Jericho, "because the homeland is more important to me than the immediate family.

Brig. Qudsieh, who comes from a village near Haifa. described his feeling of returning to his homeland 'like rain finally falling on land which suffered drought for seven years." Asked how he felt about serving in Jericho, he said: "It is part of my country."

The mission of the Palestinian police in Jericho, he said, was "to protect the security of our people and all those who fall under our jurisdiction," and insisted that no clashes would occur between the Palestinians and

"We Palestinians are civilised and educated and understand the realities," the brigadier said. "Having opposition is part of the democratic nature of the Palestinian sys-

Col. Badwan said the Palestinian police would not shoot at Palestinian stonethrowers. "Don't ever believe that someone who fought against the enemy for so long would ever have to point the gun at his own

people," he said.
"We were trained on a humanitrian basis, and we will prevent any crime from being committed, even if it is a Palestinian attacking an Israeli," Capt. Khader Alawneh, 34, told the Jordan Times.

He doubted that the Palestinian youth in the West Bank, who have been hurling stones at Israeli occupation soldiers since the intifada began in late 1987, would do the same to the Palestinian

"We are still very tribal in our thinking, and the Palestinians are in effect one family. So I doubt there will be any antagonism between us," the captain said.

Capt. Alawneh, whose family comes from Jerusalem but will see his homeland for the first time in his life. explained the general mood of the returning Palestinians in uniform.

"Our return to the homeland is very emotional," he said, "because our dream of return is finally becoming a

THE MARCH AND THE

**POPULAR MARKET** 

PNSF officers expected to lead the 270-man unit from Jordan into Jericho.

Speaking to journalists at the Madinat Al Hujaj, Col. Sharbawi was confident that "details may delay but will not stop the process of the implementation of the Gaza-Jericho first accord."

Bright green berets with the PNSF emblem and Palestinian flags were the first parts of the new Palestinian police uniform to arrive.

As they awaited word on the timing of their departure to Jericho, the PNSF men exchanged their wine-red Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) berets for the new PNSF green ones.

The PLA emblem, which had been removed Friday. were replaced Sunday morning, as PNSF members sat under sunshades less than a kilometre away from the King Hussein Bridge.

But some PNSF members

were irked by the absence of uniforms and even more by the unwillingness of the Israeli government to allow wooden and metal cartons filled with PNSF firearms to enter with the unit. "We are not going in with

Kalishnikovs on our shoulders. But they should at least let in our trucks," said one PNSF officer. As the PNSF members set-

tled down for the day, Palestinians on the other side of the Jordan River anxiously awaited their arrival hoping that the forces of self-rule would be the beginning of the end of their suffering under Israeli occupation. Units of the Jericho boy

scouts, waving Palestinian flags, vowed to stay put in front of the city council building until "the Palestine Liberation Army cames marching into Jericho.'

Scores of Palestinian women, clad in traditional embroidered dresses, were ordered out of the area around the border crossing by Israeli soldiers.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinian police officers empowered to administer the Palestinian transition to selfrule in the Strip called a press conference only to announce that they had "no comment" on when the Palestinian police headed for Gaza would arrive.

Asked whether the "crisis" holding up the entry of the PNSF units was still ongoing, Ziad Al Atrash, head of the Fateh security forces, said. "It's a crisis.

As the sun went down in Gaza Palestinians hoped Monday would usher in the entry of the long-awaited

Reuter Adds: The first legal shipment of Palestinian arms in Israel's 27-yer-old occupation crossed into the Gaza Strip on Sunday but the policemen who are meant to use them stayed behind in Egypt.

Palestinian and Israeli officials blamed each other for the delay. Instead of a triumphal entry of men only a truckload of weapons entered the occupied territories.

Uniformed policemen unloaded guns and crates of ammunition from an Egyptian truck onto an Israeli truck inside the Rafah border terminal linking Egypt and Gaza. Israel will inspect the guns before they are moved into the Gaza Strip.

Hundreds of police, whom Palestinians see as the embodiment of a coming Palestinian state, remained bivouacked in a military camp in the sleepy Egyptian town of Rafah while about 1,000 Gazans gathered on the other side to greet them.

Reasons given by Israeli Palestinian and Egyptian security officers on Sunday for the delayed arrival varied from lack of PLO preparedness and consultations with Israel, to lack of funds provided by donor countries to an erupting civil war in Yemen.

But whatever and whoever is holding it up, the delayed deployment is beginning to give Palestinians the same sinking feeling about the implementation of self-rule as the tortuous eight-month negotiations which led up to

## **Human Rights File** Don't hang the smugglers

By Waleed Sadi

RECENTLY, Egypt hanged 10 convicted drug smugglers after they were on the death row since 1989. Other countries are treating drug smugglers similarly, notably Iran, some Arab Gulf countries, especially Saudi Arabia and a few countries in the Far East, such as Malaysia. The primary issue here is whether drug smuggling per se is so serious a crime as to warrant the death penalty.

At the outset, it would be relatively easy to concede that drug related crimes are terribly serious and have contributed to the breakdown of one society after the other, not to mention the breakdown of family life. I think there is a wide support to this proposition worldwide. The disagreement lies elsewhere and it centres on the whether the capital punishment is justifiable even when the crime is confined to smuggling of

heroine or crack or cocaine. Granted, such drugs are addictive. Trade in these highly toxic products, including their smuggling across the borders of nations, deserve

the concerted efforts of all peoples and states on a global basis because they constitute a curse of the most henious

proportions. What concerns me, however, is whether the death penalty is the effective answer to this international disorder after having demonstrated time and again that it has failed as a deterrent. It would seem that drug smuggling per se is both a social and economic problem on the top of being a political crisis in more countries than one cares to count. Many youth at tender age, albeit they attained the legal age of majority, have proved to be easy prey to the network of drug lords and end up themselves becoming the victims as well as culprits, all at the

We all remember the case of the two British boys. caught smuggling drugs to Malaysia a few years ago, who ended up paying with their lives for their action. It is safe to say that the international community was split on

same time. The real wrong-

doers stay outside the lime-

light and escape scot free

from apprehension and pro-

secution.

their case after showing sympathy and understanding to both the Malaysian cause that aimed to root out drugs from its society as well as to the two boys who were obviously victims of a greater and wider conspiracy orchestrated by real international criminals. The case of the British boys was a clear example of a Machievellian policy that

preaches that the end justifies

the means. Not that adults, even at a very tender age, should escape punishment for accepting to be instruments in the transfer of dangerously addictive substances across international frontiers. Rather, it is a call for an enlightened approach to this dimension of the problem by apportioning guilt and re-sponsibility in a human and equitable manner, commensurate with the size of criminal responsibility. I hate to believe that "exploited" people should receive the death penalty for the purpose of driving home a message that drug trade will never be tolerated. There is a strong case in favour of "plea bargaining" in such situations,

ers of drugs would get lighter punishment excluding the death penalty in return for their cooperation to identify and apprehend the real sources of the problem. It would seem to me that

the answer to drug smuggling and related crimes calls for short term stiff punitive measures, excluding the capital punishment and long term comprehensive approach that takes into consideration the proposition that the apparent culprits are often more victims than criminals. It must be borne in mind at all times that carriers and consumers of the poisons that we call drugs are by and large the passive participants in the triangle that make the trade and consumption in them viable. Such carriers and users are the most exploited ones in the game of drugs and end up paying the biggest price. No doubt such people must be deterred from facilitating the spread of drugs nationally and internationally by carring out severe punishments against them. But to apply the death penalty against them appears to be unjustifiable on moral and legal grounds.

#### **Battle for Aden under way**

(Continued from page 1)

The International Committee of the Red Cross based in Kuwait appealed Sunday for emergency medical aid to treat the wounded, saying some five tonnes was needed

Hundreds of foreigners were meanwhile fleeing the country aboard emergency air and sea rescue operations.

Planes were flying out of Sanaa, while French warships on a second such mission were waiting off the coast of Aden. The United Nations also flew out about 140 personnel

and their families from Sanaa to safety in Amman. A northern military spokesman said the south, desperate to save Aden, fired more than

five Scud missiles at "vital and strategic targets" in Sanaa on Saturday night, but without causing damage.

The two sides each have 30,000-strong armies, which have not been merged despite nnification. The south is counting on its larger air force, as well as Scud missiles, to bold

off the north. In Riyadh, the six neigh bouring states of the Gulf Cooperation Council appealed Sunday for Yemeni leaders to

halt the war. Officials said the conflict had been added to the agenda of a meeting of foreign ministers from the European Union (EU) and its main oil supplier, the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

under which carriers and us-

Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal, the current GCC chairman, told the meeting that the Yemeni war was a source of "grave concern" to Gulf states.

"We in the Arabian Peninsula have been shocked by the tragic armed confrontation in Yemen despite all efforts of mediation and good offices to resolve the differences among the Yemeni factions on the basis of dialogue and mutual understanding," he said.

President Saleh has accused his southern rivals of stealing \$375 million in oil revenues, SABA said.

Mr. Saleh on Saturday told Parliament that southern leaders, and mainly former Oil Minister Saleh Abu Bakr Ben Husseinun, had plundered public funds and been involved in financial and administrative corruption.

They stole \$375 million in

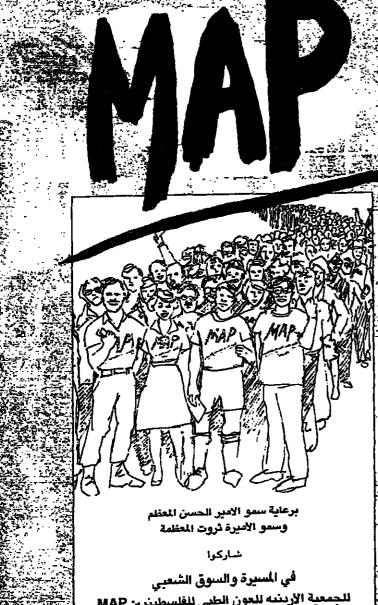
revenues from the southern Masila oil field "and deposited them in private accounts of their own," he charged. Mr. Saleh's presidential

council sacked Mr. Ben Husseinun on Thursday, a few hours after the outbreak of the civil war. Soon after the north-south

political crisis erupted last August, northern officials accused Mr. Beidh and his aides of using the southern oil field revenues for buying weapons.

Yemen's total oil output is nearly 320,000 barrels per day, including 170,000 from the Massila field.





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## Yemen war yet to bite its small oil output

civil wer appears to have had little effect so far on the country's off output, but even if it did. foreign customers could easily find new supplies, oil industry sources said Sunday.

Yemen's production of around 340,000 b/d of crude oil is small by world standards but it is a vital source of income for the impoverished, mainly agricultural country riven by a civil war between northern and southern forces.

"Some oil companies are still taking (Yemen's) Marib Part and Masila crudes, but they could replace them easione oil trader based in the

region said. cither side to attack oil facilities. If they do, it means they are not thinking about what will happen after the war," he

Qatari Cil Minister Abdullah A! Attivab, in Cairo for a conference on Arab energy cooperation, said: "What we are worried about is not how this will affect oil. We are worried about the people in

Other Arab oil officials attending the meeting said that even if Yemeni oil exports were cut off, they were too

TOKYO (AFP) — Japanese

banks still need "several more

vears" to clean up their ba-

lance sheets despite the record

level of loan write-offs last

year, Standard and Poor's Asia

"On the other hand, further

dewngrades are less likely now

that the ultimate loss attribut-

able to asset quality problems

can be more accurately pre-

dicted, as most problem loans

have been identified," the rat-

ing agency said. "In addition,

the rate of increase for new

problem loans has declined

The average rating for

Japanese bonds is currently in

the "A" miegory, down from "A-plus" in 1992 and "AA" in

1933. At the same time, the

outlook for most Japanese

In its most recent downgrad-

ing of seven Japanese banks,

Standard Poor's cited a further

increase in problem loans.

albeit at a slower pace than last

year, along with a decline in

the value of real-estate col-

The egency also noted, in

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world market currently awash with crude.

centrated in the province be-

tween the old border and the

southern port of Aden and not

around the oil-producing

The southern Masila block,

where Canadian Occidental

Petroleum Ltd. (Canoxy) pro-

duces 140,000 b/d of crude oil,

is nearly 500 kilometres east of

Aden and well away from the

ground fighting.
Canoxy said Thursday that

its staff in Aden had left during

an evacuation of foreigners by

French warships, but it added

that work at Masila was going

Yemen's third oil-producing

The Saudi-owned oil firm

area is Shabwa, where south-

ern troops and tanks have been

Nimir Petroleum started pro-

ducing in Shabwa last year at

Over 20 foreign oil firms

were operating in Yemen be-

fore war broke out, mostly

exploring new areas. It was not

clear how many of their em-

ployees had aiready been

evacuated by Western planes

and ships which have taken

hundreds of foreigners out of

the country in the last few

"On the other side of the

coin are the regional banks

which have the smallest

amount of problem loan expo-

sure both in absolute terms and

relative to assets," it said. "It

will take several years for the

banks to clean up their balance

sheets, as the equity market is

likely to remain closed to them

and the prospect for a signifi-

cant rebound in core profitabil-

bankruptcies and consequently

banks' non-performing loans

to historical highs, the ongoing

recession also has forced many

of the banks to extend substan-

tial financial support to their

non-bank affiliates. In the case

of regional banks, such support

represents their most serious

financial burden as their core

lending activities have only

been marginally affected by the recession," the agency

"In addition to pushing

ity remains slim.

an initial rate of 5,000 b/d.

sent in recent months.

on as normal.

Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh, a northerner, sacked oil minister Saleh Abu Bakr Al Hussainoun on Fri-

A day later he accused Mr. Hussainoun, a member of the southern Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), of diverting \$375 million in oil revenues to his own account and those of other YSP leaders.

Yemen's oil comes from the Marib area in the north and Masila and Shabwa, across the old border in former South

The Marib area, about 150 kilometres east of Sanna, normally produces about 195,000 b/d of crude.

Officials at the export terminal of Ras Isa told Reuters by telex that Marib, operated by a hunt oil company subsidiary, was producing normally on Sunday despite the war.

Asked if there was fighting near Ras Isa, on the Red Sea coast west of the capital Sanaa, the officials replied: "Negative. All calm even if a state of alert exists. We have plans (to

load) a ship tomorrow."

Both sides give differing accounts of the course of the

some cases, the increasing

likelihood of Japanese banks

having to bear "most of the

responsibility" for writing off

loans to the country's crippled

The agency estimated the

combined problem assets of

the 23 banks it rates at between

30 trillion yen and 35 trillion yen (between \$285 billion and

\$335 billion) for the 1993-94

The figure represents a

"small increase" from the pre-

vious six months but is "sub-

stantially above" the figure of

13.7 trillion yen at Sept. 30 disclosed by the 21 major

banks — 11 city banks, seven

trust banks and three long-

term credit banks - because

of its broader definition of

"Trust banks followed by

the long-term credit banks

have the largest amount of

problem loans as a percentage

of related assets. This reflects,

in part, their role as major

lenders to borrowers in the

real-estate, construction and

non-bank finance industries,"

problem loans.

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housing loan industry.

**Samese banks need 'several** 

mane years' to clean up loan mess

## Indian state banks lose \$1.2 billion in 1992-93

NEW DELHI (AFP) — State-run Indian banks together posted losses of \$1.2 billion for the 1992-93 financial year which ended in March last year, a central bank report said Sunday.

Only the State Bank of India (SBI), with 8,700 branches across the country, made money. It recorded profits of \$93 million between April 1992 and May 1993, the Reserve Bank of India

The SBI's net profit in the previous fiscal year was \$81 million. according to the Trend and Progress of Banking India report. Bank deposits were affected by a \$1.3 billion bank and securities fraud which emerged in April 1992 following the crash of the Bombay Stock Exchange. Several Indian and foreign banks were indicted in the scandal.

The performance of overseas banks was equally dismal with total losses of \$280 million against a profit of \$106 million the previous year, the RBI report added. The report flayed national banks for overspending, poor loan

recovery and bad investments. It called for stronger supervision "to promote a safe, stable and efficient financial system."

#### **Digital Equipment may** slash 20,000 more jobs

MAYNARD. Massachusetts (R) — Digital Equipment Corp, warning that its "entire enterprise could be at risk" may cut as many as 20,000 jobs as part of a major restructuring aimed at

drastically cutting costs, the company has said.

Digital chief executive Robert Palmer, in a message to the computer maker's top managers and employees, said the reduction in Digital's 85,000 work force would be carried out over the next two years. The company, which has lost more than \$3 billion in the last three years, reported an unexpected \$183 million deficit in its latest quarter.

## Lack of confidence, corruption hit Kenya

NAIROBI (R) - Policy turnabouts and corruption have sharply undermined investor confidence in Kenya and hampered economic growth, economists and business leaders

Economists said confidence in Kenya's management of reform had waned in the last decade because of inconsistency and unpredictability in the political system.

"The reluctance of the government to take prompt action on cases of corruption has dampened the investment climate. Existing investors either hold on to current investments or cut back," the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), a private think tank, said in a statement issued Sunday.

"Political patronage in eco-nomic decision-making and unending politically instigated ethnic strife have adversely affected the sanctity of property which is one of the crucial ditions for the creation of an attractive investment climate," it added.

President Daniel Arap Moi, who rarely admits policy fai-

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lures in public, conceded at an investors' conference that ended in Nairobi Saturday that Kenya had experienced previous economic management problems.

There is a feeling among investors that government tended to enforce the regulatory framework and laws selectively in what amounts to corruption," President Moi said. "We do not condone corrup-

President Moi, stung by investor pessimism about his commitment to the sweeping economic changes he was per-suaded by global donors to implement a year ago, also repeated pledges not to renege again on reforms.

Finance Minister Musalia Mudavadi, seen as the leader of moves to implement reforms, has pledged to press on with recent measures and launch new ones to ensure rapid and sustained develop-

"I will continue reform of a variety of regulations to enhance an enabling environment for the private investor," he said at last week's confer-

In March last year, President Moi's government announced it had floated the Kenyan shilling, freed interest rates and removed import and export restrictions to boost trade. It retracted the changes a month later, saying they hurt ordinary

But in June 1993, Kenya announced it would resume the economic reforms in earnest sparking a resurgence of optimism among investors.

Reforms praised by investors included abolition of most price controls, removal of restrictions on the export of dividends and profits and on domestic borrowing by foreign-controlled firms. Others are guaranteed free access to offshore credits for residents firms and free remittances for business travellers.

## World Bank wants more investment women's

health WASHINGTON (R) — the World Bank, citing alarming statistics showing 1,000 women die in childbirth each day, said it plans to push for greater investment in a holis-tic approach to women's

"Immediate priorities for the World Bank and its partners... are to support costeffective programmes to reduce maternal death rates immediately and drastically," the bank said in a statement.

The bank's comments were in line with President Clinton, who made women's health the main topic of his weekly radio address Saturday.

"Too often, our health care system leaves women behind," Mr. Clinton said. "Even when treatments are available, women don't get the necessary health care they need because they have inadequate insurance, or none at all.'

Progress has already been made in cutting the number of maternals deaths in some parts of Latin America and Asia, but in most of Asia and Africa the number rises annually, the bank said.

About 500,000 women worldwide die in childbirth each year, the bank said, an overall increase since 1987, when the bank started a safe motherhood initiative to raise awareness of the problem and find solutions.

The situation is worst in developing countries, the bank said, where "women's disproportionate poverty, low social status and reproductive role expose them to high health risks, resulting in needless and largely preventable suffering and premature death."

'holistic approach' to women's health, said Anne Tinker, senior health adviser to the bank.

"There is increasing interest in the international community in a life-cycle approach to women's health and nutrition which includes... such issues as gender discrimination in nutrition and health care during childhood, early pregnancy in adolescence, problems of women beyond reproductive age, and violence against women," Ms. Tinker said in

the statement. To break the chain of poor maternal health, the bank said special emphasis should be placed on adolescent girls, to stop the cycle of early childbearing, poor health and

nutrition and poverty.
So far, the bank said it has allocated \$ \$5.7 billion since 1986 to more than 100 health. population and nutrition proiects that have a focus on women's health.

## Arabs seek to save ailing overseas bank \*

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab states will send their top bankers in Vienna next week for talks with their European counterparts on how to rescue their banks from possible collapse due to strong competition from the much larger units

in the continent.
The May 10-12 conference, to be attended by more than 200 officials and bankers from the two sides, follows warnings that the nearly 125 Arab banks abroad could be forced out of business in a single European market unless they upgrade services and boost capital.

Most of those banks are small units which mushroomed during the oil boom 15 years ago, when Arab oil producers began to build up a massive investment empire in the West from their financial surpluses.

Their combined capital is estimated at around \$500 million, an average \$4 million for each. Yet calls to raise their apital or merge have fallen on deaf ears despite the possible collapse of some of them.

Arab Banks Union (ABU) Secretary-General Adnan Al-Hindi recently repeated warnings that the emergence of giant banks in the EU and other world economic groups could spell the death sentence for some Arab banks.

"Those bank banks are facing a dilemma now because they have to heed our recommendations and boost their financial position either through merger or increasing the capital to face growing world competition and meet the Basle requirement," he said. They have made no move so far. They will face difficulties in a single EU market and several of them could

shut down.'

The Basle committee, created by the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) five years ago, has recommended an eight per cent floor for capital adequacy in banks worldwide to ensure they have

enough funds to face crises. Those with low adequacy. the ratio between shareholders equities and assets, could be boycotted by industrial countries. The move has prompted bank reforms in most Arab--states to bring their units in line with BIS rules.

But Arab banks abroad some suffering from bad debts. have made no move to boost capital and bankers said most of them fell far short of the BIS

"One of the best solution to their problem is merger since their resources on an individual level are limited," one. banker said. "But I think Arab.... governments should step into the breach by placing more funds with them."

In a statement distributed here, the Beirut-based ABU. which groups more than 80 per cent of the Arab World's 300 banks, said Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky would open the Vienna conference entitled "Prospects of Coop" eration Between Arab and Foreign Banks."

It said the meeting, the biggest of its kind, would cover activities of the Arab banks abroad, carrying out joint anditing by Arab and foreign monetary authorities on those banks, developing their operations by introducing new services, and identifying obstacles facing them and proposing solutions.

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"ABU decided to hold this conferene in a foreign capital in the light of the significant. developments on the regional. and international arenas, espe-cially in the EU banking and monetray sectors," Dr. Hinds told AFP.

"It is intended to create quiet and fruitful dialogue between the two sides to discuss crucial matters of interest to: both parties. This will help us improve the image of the Arab banking sector abroad and en-sure safety and stability for it in the international market," he pointed out.

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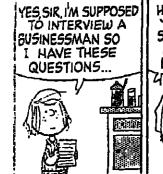
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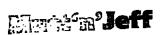


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#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY MAY 9, 1994 By Thornas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are able to proceed with new workweek on a constructive note and get excellent results as the moon in Taurus sextiles Saturn and Mercury moves into

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Study personal financial matters and make sure your records are correct. If you have any doubts, consult an expert to be sure they

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Plan the most practical way to gain personal goals and get wheels rolling without delay. Avoid one who is tricky and could cause trouble.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Sit in the quiet of your study and plan how to gain whatever means the most to you. Show that you are thoughtful to those around

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Try to please those in high position and gain the support you need. Listen to what an expert has to say on any subject. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Go after your aims in a positive manner and gain line benefits at this time. Analyse your progress in the evening to determine your

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be more alert to new ways of doing things so that you get better results in the future. Maintain a pleasant manner to all you come across.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Cooperate more with persons you deal with in business and get better results. Make sure to improve your appearance and you will be a success. SCORPIO: (October 23 to

November 21) Try to please an possible misunderstandings. Strive to be more successful in the eyes of those in charge. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have many

tasks to handle during the day, so do them efficiently and forget about going on a pleasure spree at this time. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Go to the right source for the data you need.

Stop putting off important duties at hand and gain added benefits

through your efforts. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Go ahead with plans to improve conditions at home after consulting with family members. Budget your money wisely to have some for the

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Make long-range plans which can bring excellent benefits in the future. You can easily gain a personal aim now which you have strongly desired.

## THE Daily Crossword by Ai Becker 18 Huron's 20 Those accuse 22 Move slowly 23 Table scraps 24 Peternally released 26 Dearth 30 Harass 32 Cupto 33 Carter and Irving 35 Hits slightly 39 Museum dis 41 Food wrapp 43 Beat out 44 Observed 46 FDR's pet 47 Pranks 49 Fix, as a of July 6 Fold 7 Hall-of-Famer Rogers 8 —-yourselt 9 Accusers of 20A 10 A Doone 11 Solar-lunar dime

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AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

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## in Egypt by ca

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ac members of the and one Turkish sit by security forces at said Saturday, New omb blasts rockei ng minor damage ne forces launched there Hakka: Tunceli II

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AFP) - A Palestine urist near the Jewise Palestinian source a visit to Betar, seet 'alestinian viilage de said. The tourist of The Istaeli armi ez ew on Husan and it

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#### oreign Exchange Market Summary (May 2 — May 6, 1994)

MAN — The dollar rose against other major currencies at end of last week. It ended 1.71 per cent higher against ling, 0.85 per cent higher against the yen and 0.54 per cent her against the mark.

he U.S. unit retreated against the mark and yen Monday, le remaining stable against sterling. Reports indicated that ling volume was low, and that the dollar declined against German unit on disappointment over its failure to reciate earlier on the release of a positive U.S. economic ort. The National Association of Purchasing Managers ix showed a rise to 57.7 per cent in April, after reaching

per cent the previous month. ome analysts attributed the dollar's decline to the Clinton ninistration's policy, aiming to depreciate its currency mst the yen, which affected the dollar negatively against

other currencies. he dollar continued its retreat against the mark and yen sday, while rising modestly against sterling. It declined in many market participants liquidated their long positions, pted earlier on expectation of Fed intervention, which

er materialised. he dollar was little affected by the release of U.S. March ing indicators, which showed a rise of 0.7 per cent. In ition, the dollar was not affected by calls from the U.S. isury secretary to Japan to stimulate its economy by

In the other hand, the decreasing popularity of the

iservative Party in U.K. opinion polls, had a negative ract on sterling. In Wednesday, however, the U.S. unit rose sharply against er major currencies. It appreciated to 1.6640 marks and 40 yen during trading hours, on intervention by several tral banks to support the dollar. The interventions was led

the Fed, the Bundesbank and the Bank of Japan. The lar retreated later however, after the effect of central bank rvention waned. he dollar continued its appreciation against other major

rencies Thursday, as the impact of the previous day's tral bank intervention lingered. Furthermore, strong words in the U.S. treasury secretary, who said that he sees no use further dollar declines left market participants confused in the Clinton administration's exchange policy. The words doubts over whether the administration would continue to

ssure Japan, through talking up the yen. he U.S. unit retreated modestly against the mark and yen day, while rising against sterling. It lost ground as U.S. and bond prices declined, after the release of a strong 3. employment report. The report showed a rise of 267 usand in April's non-farm payrolls, compared to a revised

of 464 thousand the previous month.

n addition, it showed that the average monthly rise in in addition, it showed that the average monthly rise in infarm payrolls was 245 thousand, during the period from litary to April 1994. Hence, despite continued expectations Fed monetary tightening, during its next scheduled open riket committee meeting on the 17th of May, the employant report strengthened expectations of increasing U.S. lation, which affected U.S. debt and equities markets gatively, and in turn the dollar.

The U.S. unit, thus ended the week at 1.6625 marks and 1.47 yen, while sterling ended it at \$1.4930.

low York Closing Retes for Major Cyrrencies Against the

Сигтелеу	29/4/94 Close	615/94 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.5190	1.4930	11.7118
Deutsche Mark	1.6535	1,6625	10.5418
Swiss Franc	1.4024	1.4140	[0.82]\$
French Franc	5.6593	5.7003	(0.72)1
japanese Yen	101.50	102.47	(0.85)\$

	29:4	29:4:1974		994
Систепсу	-Mosth(%)	1-Year (%)	I-Month (*-1	(*1 J-Yes) (*
U.S. Dellar	3.6300	5.0000	3.7500	5.1900
Sterting Pound	4.8100	5.4400	4.8800	5.6300
Deutsche Mark	5.2500	5.0600	5.0600	4.8800

	Deta: 8:3:177		
Currency	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	3.5910	0.7000	
terling Pound	1.0407	1.0459	
Peutsche Mark	0.4195	0.4214	
Swiss Franc	0.4937	0.4962	
French Franc	Q.1224	0.1230	
apeness Yen*	0.6109	0.6843	
Dosch Guilder	0.3735	0.3754	
wedish Krone	27.55	*****	
talina Lira*	0.0437	0.0439	
Belgian Franc	40000	*****	

## Study says Arabs need \$94b to raise oil capacity

ABU DHABI (AFP) - Arab states need to invest nearly \$94 billion up until the year 2000 to raise their oil and gas output capacity to face growing domestic and foreign demand,

an official study said Saturday. Most of the funds will be pumped in by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). according to the study by the Arab Corporation for Petroleum Investment (ACPI), based in the Saudi city of Dammam.

The four giants control more than 90 per cent of the Arab oil reserves and 60 per cent of the world's.

ACPI said that around 56 per cent of the funds, accounting for \$52.6 billion, would come from oil revenues in Arab producer countries.

Another \$13.8 billion would be extended by their foreign partners and the rest through commercial loans, to which regional banks would contribute

CAIRO (R) — Two Egyptian

companies are introducing

mutual funds to the country

and the first of them expects to

be up and running by June.

The funds, one of many

signs that Egyptian markets

are gradually maturing, will

initially give investors a mix-

ture of equities and fixed-in-

National Bank of Egypt and

Bank Misr, they hope to tap

the savings of people discour-

aged by falling interest rates

but wary of institutions like the

"Islamic investment com-

panies" that collapsed in the

The Egyptian government is

still trying to sort out the mess

from the Islamic companies,

which were exempt from nor-mal regulation. Some turned

out to be pyramid schemes that used their Islamic credentials

The new mutual funds could

also provide another channel

for bringing back some of the

billions of dollars Egyptians

Farid Ibrahim, managing director of National Fund

Management Corporation, the

to lure depositors.

hold abroad.

Sponsored by state-owned

come securities.

1980s.

"Despite difficult economic

conditions in the Arab countries, the region remains the most attractive in the world for oil and gas investment given its enormous reserves," said the study, published by the UAE

daily Al Khaleej. "Costs of exploiting those reserves are also the lowest in the world and there will be no problem in securing financing for such projects even if oil prices remain at their present low level," it pointed out.

The study gave no figures on capacity expansions. But according to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum

Exporting Countries (OAPEC), regional states will account for nearly 10 million barrels per day (b/d) of the total OPEC capacity increase of 13 million b/d by the year 2000.

The bulk of the increase will come from Gulf states, most of which have already embarked

reach target of 100 million

pounds (\$30 million) within

their money in banks but they

are concerned at the decline in

interest rates and they are

looking for something else,"

he told Reuters in an inter-

The yield on short-term

treasury bills, probably the

most popular investment in-

strument outside straight bank

deposits, has fallen to 13.2 per

cent from more than 19 per

in people's minds after the collapse of the Islamic com-

panies so it will take some time

to begain the confidence of the

small investor," said Mr. Ibra-him, who used to work for

Citibank in New York and

then set up Saudi Arabia's first

The arrival of mutual funds

goes hand in hand with an

increase in activity on the

Cairo Stock Exchange, which

has been largely stagnant since

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nished.

the socialism of the 1960s.

'We know what's going on

cent in 1991.

mutual find

"People are now sitting with

two months of launch.

on expansion projects. Industry sources expect such projects to push up capacity in Saudi Arabia, the world's top crude producer and exporter, to around 12 million b/d by the

in 1993. In Kuwait and the UAE, it will rise to over three million b/d each, while it will reach five million b/d in Iraq.

Leaving out Iraq which is

year 2000, from 9.5 million b/d

barred from exporting oil under a U.N. embargo since the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis. Gulf Arab states currently produce nearly 13 million b/d, accounting for more than half OPEC's output and one fifth of the

The UAE is the only Gulf nation to have foreign partners in its energy sector on a 60-40 per cent partnership basis. But other states in the region are considering readmitting foreigners to secure funds for ex-

An OAPEC study said ener-

Egypt wakes up to mutual funds company with the most adv-The government plans to sell off hundreds of public sector anced plans, said he expected companies and give the workers options on 10 per cent of subscriptions to his first fund to

the shares in the firms. "We're just about to embark on a very active and rapidly growing stock market," said Mr. Ibrahim.

But, unlike many brokers, he said he was not pinning his hopes on the privatisation programme, which may bring no more than 25 companies a year to the market.

The stock market can flourish without really waiting for privatisation," he said. "No one has attempted to go to the 450 closed companies and make them a friendly offer.'

The closed companies are mostly family firms listed on the exchange for tax reasons. In practice, their shares are not for sale because the families plan to retain full control. Mr. Ibrahim's company, 55

per cent owned by the pension fund for National Bank of Egypt employees, plans to launch two other funds within months of the first - one more conservative fund to provide income and another based solely on equities.

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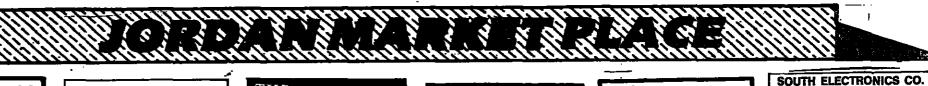
consumption in the Arab World was growing faster than the average world demand due to rapid expansion in the industrial sector, expecially in oil-producing states.

It forecast consumption to grow by 4.2 per cent up to 2010, when it will reach 500 million tonnes (10 million b/d) from 330 million tonnes (6.6 million b/d) in the year 2000

and 239 million tonnes (4.78 million b/d) in 1992.

The 10-nation OAPEC accounts for more than 80 per cent of the total Arab energy consumption, it said.





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## U.N. military observers begin deployment in Bosnian enclave

ZAGREB (Agencies) -- Six U.N. military observers have been deployed in the northeastern Bosnian enclave of Brcko and 10 others are to be sent there Sunday, the U.N. Protection Force (UNPRO-FOR) announced.

The deployment of the 16 observers at four observation posts near the Bosnian Serb frontline is in line with an agreement reached earlier this week between the UNPRO-FOR and local Serb authorities in Brcko.

The UNPROFOR Thursday also announced that 14 additional observers were to be deployed northwest and south

of Brcko. Their presence is aimed at averting fighting in the strategically located region that includes a corridor linking Serbia proper with territory held by the Bosnian Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia.

Meanwhile, a senior U.N. official met Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic Sunday and defended a controversial decisicn by U.N. envoy Yasushi Akasai to allow Bosnian Serb tanks to transit through a NATO exclusion zone around Saraievo.

## New left poised to win Hungarian

elections BUDAPEST (AP) - Hunganan voters, soured by growing economic hardship, voted for a new government Sunday that coeld include the same figures who lost power as Communists

Con years ago. The vote marks the second thee election after more than four decades of communism. Voters cast ballots for both individual candidates and party iists to fill the 386-seat legisla-

ture. There are 1,876 candi-The latest surveys prior to the balloting had the ex-Communists, the Socialists Party, well ahead with 30 per cent,

couble that of their next accrest rival, the Liberal Free Democrats. High unemployment and infiction stemming from the ाधारापु's conversion to capital-

ism have prompted calls for a seturn to the era of full employment and state support for the disadvantaged.

'We need another four years to complete our mission." Prime Minister Peter Boross pleaded with voters in

his last campaign appearance.

Opinion polls said his governing Hungarian Democratic Forum is supported by only 9 per cent of the electorate.

Despite that, Mr. Boross looked upbeat as he entered a polling station in Budanest's second district.

'We made mistakes, but not as many as any left-wing gov-ernment would," he told reporters. "You can get a lot of votes with promises. But you also have to know how to govern."

Insurance salesman Tibor Szemerey, casting his Socialist vote in another district, declared of the government: "I've had it with these

people." Unemployed factory worker Karoly Kovacs, said "every normal person today votes left. The government wrecked this country - we've had enough of them."

More than 15 parties, ranging from far right to Marxists are vying for the support of more than 8 million voters. But only the Socialists, the Democratic Forum, the Free Democrats and the Young Democrats are expected to gamer enough support to play major roles in the new govern-

A runoff vote will take place on May 29 for districts where no one candidate wins at least

50 per cent of the vote.

The last Communist government of Miklos Nemeth was widely seen as pragmatic and competent. Gyula Horn, Mr. Nemeth's foreign minister. now leads the Socialists.

Mr. Horn is recovering from injuries suffered in a car accident Thursday. He was expected to be released from the hospital by the end of the week.

Socialist officials said Mr. Horn was not voting, preferring to rest instead.

Mr. Horn was smeared by government-controlled state television, which throughout the campaign focused on Mr. Horn's membership in a Communist militia after the defeat of the 1956 uprising against Soviet rule.

Sergio De Mello, U.N. civil affairs coordinator for ex-Yugoslavia, told reporters after the meeting that the agreement on the tank movement reached by Mr. Akashi Tuesday with Bosnian Serb leaders was made "in the context of a rather complex and long nego-

tiation," Mr. De Mello said he was "not in Sarajevo to admit mistakes," but declined to provide details of his discussions with Mr. Izetbegovic, who has de-manded Mr. Akashi's dismissal

over the issue. Since Mr. Akashi agreed to allow seven Serb tanks to pass through the NATO-enforced 20-kilometre (12-mile) exclusion zone around the Bosnian capital, five have transited to the Trnovo region south of the city, a sixth has been blocked by U.N. troops near the Serbheld suburb of Lukavica and a seventh has gone missing in Serb-held Grbavica, close to

the city centre. The Bosnian authorities. angered by Mr. Akashi's decision, have written to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali asking him to sack Mr. Akashi, and have said they will refuse to cooperate with the

GENEVA (Agencies) — The Red Cross Sunday began eva-cuating patients from the over-flowing hospital in the embat-tled Rwandan capital kigali,

taking them to a clinic in the

south, a spokesman of the In-ternational Committee of the

The "routine" operation to

transfer patients to Gitarama will help "balance the distribu-

tion of sick and wounded peo-

ple between the different avail-

able hospitals," he said. Rwan-

da has been wracked by ethnic

massacres for more than a

He was not able to say how

many patients were involved and if medical staff were also

being transferred.
Fighting in Rwanda between

Tutsi rebels and Hutu-

dominated government forces

over the last weeks has killed

more than 100,000 and forced

to flee their homes for neigh-

bouring countries, especially

The two sides were still bat-

thing for control of Kigali at the

weekend, casting serious

doubts over two separate ceas-

efires due to come into force.

zania have called for more

international monitors to be

Rwandan rebels near Kigali

are poised to make an assault

on the government-controlled

airport, a vital link to the

outside world for U.N. and

relief flights supplying the

target," Rwanda Patriotic

Front (RPF) Captain Emma-

nucl Rugema told Reuters late

Saturday as he pointed to

Kanombe Airport from Gasogi

Hill, where rebels have adv-

anced in the last four days.

RPF artillery and soldiers,

lug in among banana planta-

tions on a low hill, overlook

the government army's

Kanombe barracks and the two

"The enemy tried to dis-

sides clashed fiercely Saturday.

"Obviously that's our

embattled city.

deployed in the country.

The United States and Tan-

month.

Red Cross (ICRC) said.

ICRC evacuates some

from Kigali hospital

U.N. peacekeeping officials in Sarajevo were also dismayed at the decision.

Mr. De Mello said he would "certainly not" replace Mr. Akashi in subsequent dealings between the United Nations and the Bosnian authorities.

Meanwhile, soldiers of the U.N. Protection Force (UN-PROFOR) continued searching for the missing Serb T-34 tank, UNPROFOR said in a statement early Sunday.

A U.N. source said Saturday that the tank was probably hidden in a large building such as a barn or a warehouse in or near Grbavica.

The concession for Serb tanks to pass through the Sarajevo exclusion zone was "not the only event that may have slowed down the peace process in recent times," Mr. De Mello said.

It was "perhaps not the most striking of the setbacks" suffered by the peace process, and mediators were hoping to resolve "other chronic problems," citing the situation in the eastern Muslim enclave of Gorazde, the northwestern Bihac region and "other bot-

lodge us but we hit him hard,

so he went back," Capt. Ruge-ma said as plumes of smoke rose in the city behind him and

mortar explosions boomed

Fighting round the airport would cut off the U.N. and aid

agencies working in the capital

from the world, but the RPF

says it is a fair target because

government troops have used

make the airport neutral, but

government forces tend to

place guns at the airport and

use it for helicopters which attack us," RPF Vice-

Chairman Patrick Mazimhaka

He pointed out two barracks

on the eastern side of the

runway and said government

artillery fired from that area.

around these buildings lies the

wreckage of the plane in which

President Juvenal Habyarima-

na was killed along with

Burundi's leader when the air-

craft was downed by a rocket

sparked the mass killings and

Kanombe Barracks is direct-

ly in the flight path of aircraft

coming in to land.

It is still not known who

fired the rocket at the plane,

but government soldiers have

not so far allowed U.N. offi-

cials to visit the crash scene.

The government says it has retrieved the plane's "black

box" flight recorded - but has

Behind Gasogi Hill, doze

of guerrillas rested in the vil-

lage of Kabuga which the RPF

captured in its latest advance.

out for several days and the tail

fins from mortar bombs litter the muddy streets and dam-aged buildings.

pro-government "Intera-

Rebeis said members of the

Government soldiers held

not sent it for analysis.

Mr. Habyarimana's death

on April 6.

fighting.

On the same grassy hill

told Reuters in Rwanda.

"We have asked the U.N. to

the area as a military base.

His talks with Mr. Izetbegovic had covered the situation in Gorazde where there remained some seemingly minor but in fact very important differences" to resolve, notably the withdrawal of Bosnian Serb forces, "especially the Serb-militia," from the three-kilometre (two-mile) exclusion

Mr. Izetbegovic again in-sisted on full Serb compliance with NATO ultimatums and exclusion zones as a prior condition for agreeing to a country-wide ceasefire.

U.S. Senate Republican leader Bob Dole called Saturday for the removal of Mr. Akashi, saying he has been too soft on the Bosnian Serbs.

Sen. Dole, who has led a call for tougher U.S. action in Bosnia-Hercegovina, said Mr. Akashi and U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali have been an obstacle to international efforts to help defend the Bosnian government.

He also reiterated his call for Washington to provide arms to the Bosnian government, saying such a measure is allowed under article 51 of the U.N. charter on self-defence.

## Major's government hit by sex scandal,

poll shock LONDON (R) - Prime Minister John Major's government, routed in local elections last week, was hit by yet another sex scandal Sunday and an opinion poll showing it also faces humiliation in next

month's European elections. The double blow added to the problems of Mr. Major, the most unpopular premier on record, who could face a challenge to his leadership of the ruling Conservatives who ousted his predecessor Margaret Thatcher in 1990 as an

election liability. A Sunday Times poll predicted the Conservatives would 2 seats in the F pean Parliament elections on June 9 compared to 56 for the opposition Labour Party and 14 for the centrist Liberal

Democrats. In last week's local council elections, the Conservatives slumped to just 27 per cent of the vote behind the opposition

Now the government, hoping to put on a united front in the leadup to the next crucial electoral test, has been hit by an embarrassing resignation. Michael Brown, a junior

"whip" or government manager in parliament, stepped down after the News Of The World tabloid splashed on its front page allegations he had a homosexual relationship with a Conservative student.

Mr. Brown, a member of parliament for the past 15 years, said he would take legal action against the paper. "This will require my personal and direct attention which I could not pursue as long as I remained in government."

BRUSSELS (R) — The Western European Union (WEU)

defence group opens its doors

ion (EU) develops a common

foreign and security policy. It

could one day become

Foreign and defence minis-

ters from the WEU will invite

six Eastern European states

and three Baltic republics to

become "associate partners"

Ministers from Poland, Hun-

gary, the Czech Republic, Slo-

vakia, Romania, Bulgaria,

Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania

- all countries anxious for

closer ties with the West - will

also attend the Luxembourg

The scheme is intended to

complement NATO's "part-

nership for peace" plan, which

offers all former Warsaw Pact

members greater military

cooperation, and is linked to

Eastern Europe's growing

cooperation in trade and other

will not have security guaran-

tees or the right of veto over

WEU decisions, they will

While the countries involved

fields with the EU.

Monday in Luxembourg.

Europe's defence arm.

## Hiroshi Nakai (right) listens to Emperor Akthito (left) with Prime Minister Tsutonsu Hata (2nd left) Japan gets new justice minister seito (Renewal Party) was widely interpreted as an attempt to deflect criticism that

ing him.

by the controversy.

TOKYO (Agencies) — Japan's new Justice Minister Hiroshi Nakai moved quickly Sunday to quell a storm of protest aroused by his disgraced predecessor's attempt to whitewash the country's wartime record.

"It is true that (the Japanese military) conducted cruel, indescribable acts in Nanjing," Mr. Nakai told a news conference after Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata had accepted his predecessor Shigeto Nagano's

Mr. Nagano, in an interview carried by Mainichi Shimbun Wednesday, had denied Japan waged an aggressive war in Asia in the 1930s and 1940s or massacred tens of thousands of Chinese civilians in Nanjing in 1937.

The remarks sparked protests from Asian countries which had suffered under Japan's military rule before and after World War II.

Mr. Nakai, sworn in Sunday by Emperor Akihito, is a member of the Democratic Socialist Party. It is his first appointment to a cabinet post.

Mr. Hata's decision to pick a new justice minister from a party other than his own Shin-

Mr. Nakai was confirmed by Emperor Akihito Sunday following his predecessor's res-

attacks when parliamentary

business resumes this week.

he was favouring his own

Mr. Nagano was a member

South Korea lauded Mr. Hata Sunday for his "courageous" decision to fire his justice minister, but suspicion persisted in Seoul over rightists who deny Japan's World War II atrocities.

Mr. Nagano's dismissal "showed the determination and courage of Prime Minister Hata, who wants to have a correct recognition of the past and forge a new bilateral rela-tionship," the South Korean

Foreign Ministry said in a

The statement was in contrast to newspaper commentaries that warned of a dormant rightist sentiment among Japanese government and political leaders.

of Hata's party, a fact which fuelled criticism of the prime minister's judgement in select-"(Nagano's) resignation... could assuage the speading Mr. Hata's position as head outcry and ire in Asia to some of a fragile coalition minority extent. But, what really counts is Japan's thinking and feeling government has been damaged with regard to its military aggression against its neigh-bours," the Korea Times said Opposition party members are expected to step up their

in an editorial Sunday. But government officials said privately that they hoped the fray would not hurt their efforts to build close ties with

the new Japanese government. The editorial echoed widespread public worry here over efforts by Japanese conservatives to revise the country's post-war constitution to allow the former colonial ruler to possess a stronger, more active

"Nagano's remarks raise suspicions about the true colours of the newly formed gov-ernment led by Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata," the Korea Times said.

## Clinton, advisers discuss Haiti policy changes

WASHINGTON (R) - President Bill Clinton discussed U.S. policy toward Haiti with his national security advisers as using the U.S. Armed Forces to dislodge Haiti's military

Meanwhile ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide expressed scepticism about the possibility of U.S. military action in Haiti and the threat of tighter U.N. sanc-

In a television interview aired Saturday, Mr. Aristide said on CNN's "Both Sides" with Jesse Jackson: "We have to see a political will coming from the U.N., from the U.S., to make sure they will pass from statements to actions, because our country looks like a

house on fire.' Mr. Aristide dodged questions about whether the Haitian people would support U.S. military intervention, saying he would be impeached under his constitution if he

asked for it. White House officials said one item Mr. Clinton and his advisers discussed was speeding the processing of Haitians who are seeking political asylum in the United States to

escape repression at home. The Chinton policy of forcwho flee their country by boat has led to two protests in front of the White House by several members of Congress and a 26-day hunger strike by activist Randall Robinson.

Officials said there would not be a change in the policy of returning to Haiti those Haitians not deemed political refugees. But they said Mr. Clinton and his aides were discussing options to speed long delays in the processing of the thousands seeking asylum.

White House officials said after the two-hour meeting that the whole Haitian policy was under review and modifications would be made but it was unsure when an announcement would be made.

Options under consideration were setting up new processing centres aboard U.S. ships or in nearby third countries and improving the processing facili-ties in Haiti, officials said. Also under review were

ways to provide greater secur-

ity to refugees intercepted at sea by U.S. authorities and returned to the island, they

including Vice President Al Gore, Defence Secretary William Perry, Secretary of State Warren Christopher and National Security Adviser Anthony Lake, among others, held their second meeting in two days on Haiti.

They also discussed a U.N. Security Council resolution that will impose a nearly total embargo on Haiti on May 21 if Haiti's military rulers do not resign by then.

Mr. Clinton has said he cannot rule out military force to drive out Haitian Armed Forces Commander Lieutenant-General Raoul Cedras and his top brass if the sanctions fail. His objective is to restore to power the democratically elected Aristide.

A poll showed Americans were sceptical about the use of force in Haiti. A CNN-Time magazine poll said 55 per cent of Americans opposed U.S. military intervention in Haiti with only 24 per cent in favour.

res of Puerto Rico in the May 21 pageant to be aired live on

#### Survey: Japanese students live

worldwide television.

for the moment TOKYO (AFP) — Japanese high school students are carefree now but more pessimistic about their future than counterparts in the United States and Taiwan, according to an opinion poll. Asked if young people should enjoy themselves while they can, 52 per cent of the Japanese students responded affirmatively, compared with 22 per cent of the Americans and just 13 per cent for Taiwan. The survey of around 1,000 students in each of the three countries was taken late last year by the Japan Institute for Research on Youth, an affiliate of the Education Ministry. Only three per cent of the Americans said they were pessimistic

## videotaped beating

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. (AP) — The owner of a yearold collie named Jazzy was charged with animal cruelty after neighbours videotaped him allegedly beating the dog with a garden tool and taping its mouth shut. Richard Eugene Griffith Jr. 36, was arrested. Police said neighbours videotaped him on April 23 attacking the dog in the back yard of his two-story home. The tape showed "Griffith kicking the collie, throwing rocks at her and beating her with a wooden-handled garden tool," said police Sgt. Dann Bean. "The video depicts Griffith taping Jazzy's mouth shut before striking her with the garden tool numerous times." Griffith was released Saturday on \$5,000 bail. He faces two felony counts of animal cruelty. Each count carries up to one year in prison and a maximum fine of \$20,000. Griffith's attorney, Mark N. Phillips, said he wouldn't comment

#### hamwe" militia were among the defenders of Kabuga. Seoul to push ahead with arms buildup — report

SEOUL (AFP) - South Korea has decided to go ahead with its arms buildup, includ-ing deployment of Patriot missiles, regardless of developments in the dispute over North Korea's nuclear programme, media reports said

"It's our (new) policy to pursue necessary security measures without linking them to nuclear negotiations," the national Yonhap News Agency quoted a senior government

official as saying. The report followed a weekend announcement in which the defence Ministry said South Korean Armed Forces would hold a six-day drill starting Monday "to enhance their defence preparedness and joint operational

capability. The revised policy calls on the military to proceed with exercises and deployment of Patriot missiles and other sophisticated equipment as

planned, Yonhap said. "We have tried to avoid provoking North Korea as much as possible. But despite such efforts, North Korea has not given up its nuclear programme, the official was quoted

Recently, South Korea got tough with North Korea over its refusal to allow full outside inspections of its nuclear sites raising the possibility of discus-sions with Washington on same

On Saturday, Lee Hong-Koo, the South's unification ter, warned that North Korea's change of fuel rods at its suspected nuclear reactor would invite U.N. sanctions.

North Korea says it will allow international monitors to witness the fuel replacement but only without sampling the used fuel, citing its "special status" as a country half outside the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

But the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has refused to send monitors, insisting on sampling the used fuel to determine whether the government had diverted fissile material for weapons.

U.S. officials believe the impending change of fuel rods at North Korea's five-megawatt reactor in Yongbyon, 90 kilometres (56 miles) north of Pyongyang, can provide enough plutonium to make four or five nuclear weapons.

attend regular meetings in Brussels and can take part in military planning and opera-tions if they wish.

to Eastern European nations Monday, offering them close political ties and the possibil-Since the end of the cold war, the nine-nation WEU has ity of joint peacekeeping and other military operations. The WEU, long oversha-dowed by the U.S.-led NATO taken on a limited role in European crises, including helping to enforce sanctions against Serbia on the Danube and with a naval force in the during the cold war, has recently won a new lease of life Adriatic. as the 12-nation European Un-

It is still very much the junior partner to NATO but now has forces assigned to it, including a new "Eurocoros" that brings together troops from France, Germany, Spain and Belgium

NATO has also said it could lend certain key military assets - including headquarters units - to the WEU for use in crises when the alliance is unwilling or unable to take action itself. Ministers will discuss how that will work in practice.

Eastern European nations want to join both the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the European Union but have failed to win firm promises on a timetable. Despite that, Poland, and Hungary have formally applied to join the EU.

Members of the WEU are in both NATO and the European Union. They are France, Britain, Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain, Portugal and Italy. Greece is joining but the

WEU defence group to take East Europe into fold agreement has not yet been formally ratified.

On Bosnia, WEU ministers will discuss the possibility of contributing a force of up to 400 police for the city of Mostar, which may be put under European Union administra-Diplomats said there may be

some informal discussion of who will succeed WEU Secretary-General Willem Van Eekelen, due to step down before the end of this year. His original mandate ran out at the end of April but WEU members agreed recently to prolong it for six months.

Meanwhile, Sweden and Finland break a tradition of firm neutrality that endured throughout the cold war Monday when they forge a formal link with NATO by signing the alliance's "partnership for

peace".

The partnership, originally designed to provide closer military links between NATO and its former enemies, will enable the two countries to take part in joint peacekeeping exercises and other training with the alliance.

Fifteen countries from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union have signed the partnership scheme so far, many of them in the hope that it will help them become full members of the North Atlantic treaty Organisation (NATO).

While Sweden and Finland have no intention of joining the 16-nation alliance, they plan to join the European Union next year. The EU is developing a common foreign

NATO has accepted Sweden and Finland as participants in the scheme because both countries have long experience in U.N. peacekeeping operations which could prove useful to the alliance as it takes on new missions in the post-cold war

and security policy.

Finland has already suggested setting up a peacekeepng college in Helsinki to which NATO countries and others would be invited to send officers for training, alliance SOURCES SAV.

"Unlike the Eastern Europeans, these countries are not interested in help with issues such as defence planning," said one source. "They feel they have something to offer and that neutrality clearly no longer has the same meaning that

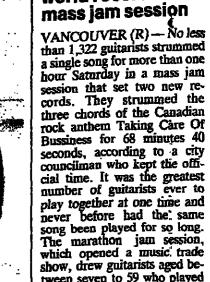
Swedish Foreign Minister Margaretha Af Ugglas and Finnish Foreign Minister Heikki Haavisto will sign the partnership at NATO Headquarters Monday. Alliance sources said both

countries would then present

NATO with a detailed outline

of the cooperation they want

under the scheme Tuesday.



tween seven to 59 who played acoustic guitars, and some unamplified electric guitars, in a sunny downtown Vancouver square. They were led by Ran-dy Bachman, former guitarist dy Bachman, former guitarist of the groups Bachman Turner Overdrive and the Guess Who. The largest previous gathering of guitarists was 545 who played Hang On Sloopy for 45 minutes in Columbus, Ohio. The previous record for play-

by 532 guitarists in Santa Cruz, Women's group

denounces Miss

ing time was 65 minutes of Shake, Rattle and Roll Mayed

Universe contest MANILA (AFP) — About 150 members of a leftist women's group Saturday staged a picket near the stadium where the Miss Universe beauty pageant is to be held, attacking Philippine President Fidel Ramos for hosting the contest. The mem-bers of Gabriela accused Mr. Ramos of being "a world-class pimp," charging that the gov-ernment's decision to host the Miss Universe contest was intended to promote sex tourism

in this country. Speakers charged that more foreigners would come to this country in search of cheap prostitutes due to the publicity garnered from hosting the beauty pageant. They also charged that Mr. Ramos was using the contest to boost the prestige of his gov-ernment, in the same way then-President Ferdinand Mar-cos hosted the Miss Universe pageant in 1974 to promote his martial-law regime. The protestors were prevented from approaching the stadium by a group of private security Gabriela members dispersed after a little over an hour. Seventy-eight contestants will be vying to succeed reigning Miss Universe Dayanara Tor-

about their own future, compared with 23 per cent for Japan and seven per cent for

#### Man arrested for of collie

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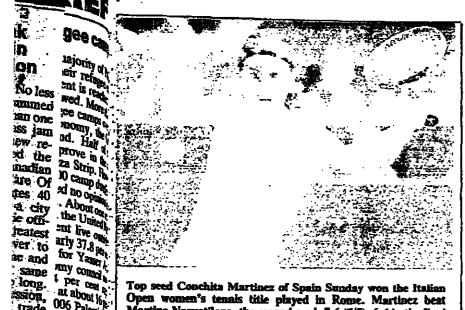
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Top seed Conchita Martinez of Spain Sunday won the Italian Open women's tennis title played in Rome. Martinez beat Martina Navratilova, the second seed, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 in the final match which lasted one hour, 50 minutes (AFP photo)

#### United States Asia to tackle soccer corruption

WWITH ARMY KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) -Corruption, the Asian Cup and a bitter election battle will be topping the agenda when an Asian Football Confederation (AFC) congress opens here

Monday.

ave crossed by - expected when the AFC's tech-The most explosive debate is nical committee tackles the of the Egypa, subject of match-fixing, someus crossed at thing seemingly unique to coastal city ... southeast Asia, whereby bookiro. They will makers profit by bribing playpilgrums, in the ers and so controlling match NA, said that, results?

"We have to ensure that this 1988 Lockette, . cancerous business of matchthan going one. fixing is beaten once and for n ships had to all, said AFC Generaln ships had to all, Secretary Peter Velappan, who has often blamed corrupt soccer officials for being soft on VII KILLS 12. the bookies and players in-

volved. "The national associations me Turkish sole ... have to be convinced to take a greater stand against the problem. It looks to me as if the problem could be spreading as we speak," said Velappan Sun-

In March, Velappan touched off a war of words when he accused two Chinese teams of working with Thai bookies to fix results in two tournaments played in Bangkok. Chinese soccer officials, while denying the charges, launched investigations but have yet to report

back to the AFC Velappan declined to say whether the congress would lead to any specific new initiatives against match-fixing, which is considered especially rampant in Indonesia and

AFC delegates also face an intensive week of lobbying from the four candidates vying for Asia's FIFA vicepresident's position, one of four sets of elections this week.

The candidates are Sheikh Ahmad Fahad from Kuwait, Qatar's Mohammad Bin Hammam, Tadao Murata from Japan and South Korean Chung Moon-Jung.

## Al Ahli, Al Jazireh to clash in U-22 basketball tourney

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - The Sports Palace in Amman will witness Monday one of the most competitive basketball matches of the season as Al Ahli clash with Al Jazirch in the first leg of the final round of the under-22 basketball competition the first of the season's 12 events organised by the Jordan

Baskerball Federation (JBF). Also Monday, Al Abbasi meet Al Jalil in their quest for third place.

The top four teams will play a second leg before the competition is concluded next

Although the four qualifying teams have demonstrated a promising standard, Al Ahli and Al Jazireh have proved that they will be the top contenders for the title.

Both teams have so far maintained an unbeaten record throughout the competition in which nine teams took part: Al Ahli, Al Abbasi, Yarmouk, Homentmen, Abu Nusair, Al Jazireh, Al Jalil, Gazzet Hashem and Al Watani.

During the final round, Al Jazireh scored an impressive 109-47 (57-19) win over Al Jalil who were expected to give it a tougher fight, especially since their first round encounter had ended 84-75 for Al Jazireh. Al Jazireh also beat Al

Abbasi 82-56 (40-28). Meanwhile, Al Ahli beat Al Jalil 91-47 (51-22), and Al Abbasi 91-55 (57-29).

So far, Al Ahli have scored more impressive and convincing victories thanks to well experienced players including Mohammad and Taimour Shamali, Ramez Hammoudeh, Wisam Nino, Zeid Alkhas, Faisal Ensour and Riyad Avesh, in addition to an abundant number of substitutes.

During the preliminary round they scored crushing victories of 125-71 over Al Yarmouk; 160-43 over Abu Nusair; 140-55 over Homentmen and 98-65 over Al Abbasi. Al Jazireh had a more diffi-

cult path. They overcame Al Watani 91-62; Al Jalil 84-75 and Gazzet Hashem 116-36. Wifaq, Anjarah, Al Mafraq and Al Husun clubs did not This season, Al Jazireh will again attempt to clinch the

most titles. Last year they won the boys U-14 and U-16 titles, finished second in the U-19 competition, third in the first division and won the women's championship.

Their ambitious team is led by Ghaith Ennabi and new recruit Naser Alawneh who moved from Al Hussein for a reported sum of JD5000.

Abbasi, formerly a lowly second division club, qualified to the final round after losing only to Al Ahli. Their young team, led by Ashraf Samara, Tareq Najjar and Iyad Zalatimo, has been playing with greater confidence since they beat Al Orthodoxi to clinch third place in the 1993 under-19 competition back in Janu-

Al Jalil have also demonstrated that they are a team to be reckoned with despite withdrawing against Al Jazireh in the final minutes of their first round match. Al Jazireh had barely won the first half 43-41 and were leading 84-75 when the match was suspended.

The JBF had opted to commence the 1994 season with the U-22 tournament since it was cancelled in 1993. However many players this year also missed the competition since the JBF's regulations stipulate that only those born after 1973 can take part. Therefore, many players born in 1972 and who are still just under 22 could not compete for the second con-

Most teams were undoubtedly affected by this technically. Titleholders Al Orthodoxi, who won the last U-22 championship in 1992 opted not to participate this year. Similarly Al Ashrafieh, Al Hussein, Al Karak, Al

play this season. According to the JBF's 1994 regulations, first division teams are required to compete in at least two age groups, while second division teams in only one age group.

The JBF is now trying to upgrade competition and re-classify clubs. This year the first division includes only seven teams: Al Ahli, Al Orthodoxi, Jazireh, Jalil, Wat ii, Hussein and Homentmen Two teams will be relegated in 1994 and only one team will be promoted from the second division making the total number of competing teams only six in 1995 compared to eight until 1993.

After meeting with representatives of competing clubs, the JBF recently rescheduled their 1994 competition in a way that would most benefit players taking into consideration school and university exams and a host of other related factors that hinder competitions and cause numerous postponements throughout the sea-

The schedule was also readjusted according to the timetable of the national team's preparations for the Asian Games in Hiroshima in October. However, the Jordan Olympic Committee recently decided to exclude basketball and limit Jordan's participation to equestrian, shooting, athletics, taekwondo and karate.

## Go for Gin wins Kentucky Derby

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) -Go for Gin, a proven mud horse, handled the sloppy track at Churchill Downs Saturday, leading from the gate to win the 120th Kentucky Derby by two lengths.

Holy Buil, the 2-1 favourite, tripped over the Derby jinx and finished 12th in the 14horse field.

Holy Bull became the 15th consecutive beaten favourite. The last betting choice to win the Kentucky Derby was another grey, Spectacular Bid, in 1979.

Strodes Creek, trying to become the first Kentucky Derby winner without a race as a 2-year-old since Apollo in 1882, closed strong to finish second. Blumin Affair finished third and Brocco, the second betting choice, was fourth.

Go for Gin won on a sloppy track - the first such conditions for a Kentucky Derby since 1948, completing the 11/4 miles (2,000 metres) in 2 minutes, 3 3-5 seconds, Strodes Creek was 2½ lengths in front of Blumin Affair, who was three-quarters of a length in

front of Brocco. Completing the order of finish were Soul of the Matter, Tabasco Cat, Southern Rhythm, Powis Castle, Mahogany Hail. Smilin Singin Sam, Meadow Light, Holy Bull, Valiant Nature and Ulises,

Go for Gin now has raced five times on sloppy or muddy tracks and has three victories and two seconds. In his pre-vious start, he had finished second in the Wood Memorial on a muddy track at Aqueduct.

Kandaly was scratched.

Go for Gin took charge with a half-mile (1,000 metres) to go and turning for home it became obvious quickly that no one was going to catch the bay colt on this damp Saturday. It had rained Friday and much of Saturday afternoon, but the

rain stopped for the Derby. Go for Gin paid \$20.20, \$8.40 and \$5.80 to win, place and show on a \$2 bet. Strodes Creek, ridden by Eddie Delahoussaye, returned \$7.80 and \$6 to place and show on a \$2 bet while Blumin Affair, ridden by Jerry Bailey, was \$8 to

It was the second Defin victory for 39-year-old Chris McCarron, who was riding in his 12th Derby and last won in 1987 with Alysheba,

It was the second Derby triumph for co-owners William J. Condren and Joseph Cornacchia, they co-owned 1991 winner Strike the Gold with Giles Brophy.

Even more surprising than Go for Gin's victory was Holy Bull's dismal performance. The 2-1 favourite was so relaxed in the post parade that he did not need the assistance of a lead pony. But on this day, the muscular grey who was

queathed to trainer Jithing Croll by a client, didn't water up in the starting gate, either. It has been his style to break on the top, and in five of his saven richtories he want of the seven victories he went wire to

At the end, Holy Bull was 18 lengths behind Go for Gin 'It just wasn't meant to be " Mike Smith, Holy Bull's jockey, said. "He got away really bad. He got away flatfooted Every step he tried to take was a wrong one."

## Medvedev wins German Open

HAMBURG, Germany (AFP) - Andrei Medvedev won the German Open here Sunday, when he convincingly ended the giantkilling run of 20-yearold Russian Yevgeny Kafelni-

Medvedev swept to a 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 victory in the clay court classic.

Contrary to expectations, it was often a dull contest between two friends who spent part of Saturday evening playing backgammon together, but who failed to live up to their reputations as the most exciting young prospects in tennis.

The sunny but windy condi-

tions may have played some part in that, but neither player showed any particular flair. They were evenly matched in many areas, especially the rallies, which consisted largely of tentative exchanges.

Medvedev did impress with

his occasional change of pace, forcing the unsuspecting Kafelnikov, who had knocked out world number two Michael Stich Saturday, into errors. The Russian also hit some

impressive forehand passes, but they were buried inside a generally mediocre match.

Kafelnikov began by dropping serve in the first game, but broke back for 1-1 after Medvedev had led 40-15. The Ukranian nearly lost his next service game too, from 40-0, but held on and then broke again for 3-2 when Kafelnikov netted a double-handed backhand.

That settled the first set, although Medvedev doublefaulted on his first set point. In the second. Medvedey broke for 2-1, but again lost his serve in the next game.

Continuing the pattern of the

first set. Medvedev broke

again, for 4-3, and went on 16 take the set.

Kafelnikov took advantage of a poor service game by Medvedev in the third to break for 4-2 and then broke the number four seed to love in the opening game of the fourth set, But his brief revival was

snuffed out in the next game. when Medvedev broke back for 1-1, and another, to love, gave him a decisive 4-2 lead. "Yevgeny can do anything he wants. He's serving big He's playing good at the net, Right now, he's so confident

he's playing the best tennis he's "With that confidence, he goes on to the court thinking he's not going to lose, so let's make it a quick one and get it over with."

Medvedey won \$245,000 for the title, while Kafelnikov carned \$129,000 ...

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#### NEWS IN BRIEF

Doohan wins Spanish GP

JEREZ, Spain (R) - World championship leader Michael Doohan of Australia rode a cool race in the heat of Jerez to win the Spanish Grand Prix 500 race ahead of American Kevin Schwantz Sunday. Doohan allowed Schwantz to lead for 14 of the 27 laps on the 4.423-kilometre circuit but passed his rival margin. The two were well clear of American John Kocinski, whose Cagiva could not match the speed of Doohan's Honda or Schwantz's Suzuki, leaving him almost 10 seconds behind the leading pair. The victory stretched Doohan's world championship lead over the pursuing Americans. He now has 86 points after four events with Schwantz and Kocinski together on 68.

#### Barkiey backs off retirement plans

PHOENIX, Arizona (AFP) — Charles Barkley, who vowed all season that this would be his last year in the National Basketball Association (NBA), is not so sure now. "I can't say I'm definitely not coming back, because once I say it, I can't change my mind," he said Friday. "And once I say 'Hey, I'm retiring,' then I am retired." For now, Barkley is concentrating on recting his achieve before the second sound of the ing on resting his aching back before the second round of the NBA playoffs, when his Phoenix Suns will meet either Houston or Portland.

#### Cambodia returns to Asian Games

HIROSHIMA, Japan (AFP) — Cambodia will attend the Asian Games for the first time in 20 years at the Hiroshima event in October, organizers said Sunday. Cambodia will send six officials and nine athletes to Japan. Cambodia was excluded from the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) in 1976 due to their local unrest. But they were readmitted last December. According to a preliminary survey, about 7,300 competitors and officials from 42 countries will take part in the 12th quadrennial event.

#### **GOREN BRIDGE**

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 -Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: A86 AKJ8 KQJ962 +Void Q.2-East-West vyulnerable. as

South you hold: +AK74 J953 J +AJ32 Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond? Q.3-As South, vulnerable, yest

+QJ4 10954 7 +K10954 The bidding has proceeded North East South West 1 4 1 NT ? What action do you take"

Q.4-As South vulnerable, you ♣AJ2 A10 AK962 ♣Q64 The bidding has proceeded:

What action do you take"

Q.5-Both vulnerable, as South +AQ10542 .J Q8652 42 The bidding has proceeded: North East South West North East Pass 1 4 Pass 2 4 Pass ? What do you bid now?

Q.6-A. South, volnerable, you hold
4J8 AJ9542 KQ4 4A4
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Page 1 NT Page

What do you bid now? Look for answers on Monday. SAO PAULO (AFP) during the San Marino Grand Prix May 1.

Leonardo Senna, the brother of Ayrton Senna, has flatly charge, said: "Why didn't she . denied claims by a Brazilian model that the late motor racing world champion fathered her nine-month old daughter.

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Lawyers acting for Mercella Prado said in Rio de Janeiro Friday, the day after Senna's funeral here, that she plans legal action to have baby Victoria recognised as his illegitimate daughter.

If the claim is proved in court, Victoria and her mother would be entitled to sue for half of Senna's fortune, estimated at \$60 million. ·Senna was killed in a crash

Korean and German embassies.

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Leonardo, indignant at the

Senna's family denies paternity suit

do anything while he was "The girl is no daughter of Ayrton's," he insisted Satur-

"It's unbelievable that peo-ple are already trying to take advantage of the situation. We're going through a very difficult period and, on top of

that, we have to put up with stories like this." Marcella, who's real name is Edilaine de Barros Goncalves, claims that Victoria was the result of a brief fling with the

Formula One hero in 1992.

Meanwhile, the Senna is to be immortalised at the Portuguese racing circuit of Estoril, where officials have decided to name the final bend before the home straight after the triple world champion. Circuit chief Joao Teotonio

Pereira said: "This is where be won his first grand prix (1985) and opened a new era in Formula One.

"We decided to name this section of the track after him because we still haven't forgotten his qualifying lap for the 1986 Portuguese Grand Prix in a Lotus-Renault Turbo."

Circuit owners are also planning a monument to Senna at the track.

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## Dep. Demoscus Arr. American MARKET Upper Tower print is \$1 Apple Banana Banana (Mukammar) Cabbage Carret Cauliflower Cusumbers (large) Cocumbers (smill) Eggplant Gariae Green beans Lemon

Orange Onton (dr.)

Ocion (ercen) Peas

## **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Israel to let in 4,000 more Palestinians

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israel decided Sunday to allow another 4,000 Palestinians to enter the country to work, pushing the total number of labourers from the occupied territories to 12,500, officials said. Since the army sealed off the West Bank, and Gaza Strip on April 7, following a bus bombing which left eight Israelis dead, the closure has been progressively eased. All those granted work permits have to be over the age of 27, labour ministry spokesman Hanan Robin told AFP. Besides the 12,500 permits, Israel allowed 16,000 Palestinians. to return to work in occupied Arab East Jerusalem from April

#### Israel approves new Egyptian ambassador

CAIRO (AP) — The Israeli government on Sunday notified Egypt's Foreign Ministry that it accepted the appointment of Assem Megahed, as the new ambassador to Tel Aviv, ministry officials said: Mr. Megahed, 49, will replace Mohammad Bassiouny, who has been ambassador to Israel for more than seven years. Mr. Megahed graduated from Cairo's 'Ain Shams University School of Commerce in 1965 and joined the Foreign Ministry in 1968. He previously was posted to Arghanistan and Turkey and was a consul in Israel. He is married with two children.

#### Israel votes on autonomy pact on Wednesday

TEL AVIV (AP) - Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's 14member cabinet on Sunday put off giving formal approval of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy agreement signed in Cairo last week. Officials said the vote would be put off until Wednesday to give ministers time to study the details of the agreement signed in Cairo by Mr. Rabin and PLO leader Yasser Arafat. Education Minister Annon Rubinstein told reporters after the cabinet's weekly session that the agreement would also "be submitted as is customary in Israel" for the approval of the Knesset. Israel Radio said parliament would also meet Wednesday. Absorption Minister Yair Tsaban said he expected a heated debate, but that it would end in a victory for Mr. Rabin's government. which has a one-vote majority in the 120-seat parliament. "I believe we shall have a good majority. The problem is to convince our public opinion," Mr. Tsaban said.

#### Skeete, oldest American, dies at 115

RADFORD (AP) — Margaret Skeete, listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the oldest American, died Saturday at her home. She was 115. Mrs. Skeete had been bedridden since a fall three weeks ago, and died in her sleep, said her daughter, Verne Taylor. The Guinness Book of Records listed Mrs. Skeete for the first time in its 1993 edition, after verifying her age from an 1880 census that listed her as a two-year-old, Mrs. Taylor said. Mrs. Skeete also was listed in the 1994 edition. Mrs. Skeete was born Oct. 27, 1878 in Rockport, Texas. When her husband died 41 years ago, she moved from Texas to Radford to live with Mrs. Taylor's family. In dition to her husband, she outlived her other two children. Mrs. Skeete was unimpressed by her longevity. "I guess that's something, but it doesn't buy me anything," she said at her 115th birthday party last October. The oldest living person in the world is 119-year-old Jeanne Calment of France, according to Guin-

#### Zhirinovsky: New regime in the fall

BUDAPEST (AP) - Russian ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky, speeding to a meeting with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, claimed Sunday that President Boris Yeltsin planned a major Russian government shakeup. "Yeltsin told me there will be a new regime in Moscow in the fall," Mr. Zhirinovsky told reporters when he arrived at Budapest's Ferihegy airport Sunday. The fiery politician spoke as Serbs sent to pick him up hustled him to a waiting Mercedes. U.N. embargoes on Serbian-dominated former Yugoslavia include flight bans. He was accompanied by four Russian soldiers, including a colonel and a captain. Mr. Zhirinovsky plans to spend three days in Belgrade. A planned rally for him in the Serbian capital was banned, however, despite his support for Serbs in their wars in Croatia and Bosaia.

#### U.N. observer killed in Kuwait accident

KUWAIT (AP) - The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) said Sunday that one of its officers was killed and another injured in a weekend traffic accident. In a statement, UNIKOM said Major Lei Rummin, a Chinese, died when his car overturned Saturday on the Kuwaiti side of the demilitarised border area. He was 43. The cause of the accident was not known. Captain Wahab Kaharuddin, a 35-year-old Indonesian observer who was in the same car, was injured and taken to a Kuwaiti hospital, where his condition was reported to be stable, the statement added. More than 300 observers have been monitoring the border area since the end of the Gulf war.

#### Rabbani forces claim capture of key city

KABUL (AFP) - Forces loyal to President Burhanuddin Rabbani have entered the northwestern Afghan city of Baghlan, posing a direct threat to the strategic city of Pul-e-Khumri, a senior Defence Ministry officer said Sunday. General Khan Mohammad said Mr. Rabbani's forces captured Baghlan around 10:00 a.m. (0530 GMT) Saturday after fierce fighting. No independent confirmation was immediately available. Gen. Khan Mohammad said that former defence minister and Mr. Rabbani's main commander, Ahmad Shah Masoud, led the attack himself. "Now we can say that Pul-e-Khumri is besieged from all sides," he said predicting the city's fall "any time." Sporadic clashes had been going on since last month for the control of Pul-el-Khumri, about 20 kilometres south of Baghlan. The general did not say how many troops participated in the offensive nor did he give any

#### 'India puts off missile test to placate U.S.'

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao has asked to postpone this week'a test launch of the new Prithvi ballistic missile, whose development the United States wants halted, a newspaper reported Sunday. The report came as Mr. Rao prepared to meet with President Bill Clinton in Washington on May 19 to discuss strained relations over defence and disarmament. Washington has been trying to negotiate a halt to the arms race in nuclear weapons and missiles between India and Pakistan. The U.S. State Department told New Delhi it was disappointed at the failure of the recent talks with Indian officials to persuade India to stop the production of nuclear material.

#### Pilot error blamed for Zaire plane crash

KINSHASA (R) - Pilot error almost certainly caused the crash of a light aircraft which killed Zaire's acting foreign minister and a Tunisian presidential aide, Zairean Information Minister Ngongo Luwowo said on Sunday. As the government announced a period of national mourning, Mr. Ngongo said the first indications were that the Zairean pilot of the two-engined Kingair fatally misjudged his approach to Kinshasa's Ndjili airport as he tried to land in the dark. "It looks as though he came in too low and hit a tree," said Mr. Ngongo. Foreign Minister Mpinga Kasenda, Tunisian presidential envoy Zine Al Abidine Mestiri, Tunisian Charge 'dAffaires in Kinshasa Mustapha Takaya, and the head of Zaire's state electricity group SNEL, Bingota Mondoko, were among the nine passengers and crew killed in the crash, shortly after a midnight Saturday.

## S. Africans pledge themselves to reconciliation

SOWETO, South Africa (Agencies) — Nelson Mandela pledged to forget the past as he oined thousands of his countrymen in a Christian thanksgiving and reconciliation service Sunday, the eve of his election as South Africa's first black president.

"Nothing we can say can fully describe the misery of our people" under 46 years of racial repression," Mr. Mandela told a predominantly black interdenominational crowd at a soccer stadium.

"But the day we had been fighting for, the day we were working for has arrived," he said. "We are saying let us forget the past, let us hold hands, as we have done here." Mandela's African National

Congress (ANC) swept the April 26-29 election that was the first in South Africa to include the black majority. With that victory, the ANC took control of parliament, which was to elect the president on Monday.

Mr. Mandela was to be inaugurated Tuesday in a ceremony attended by more than 40 heads of state.

Some 15,000 people attended Sunday's service, organised by the South African Council of Churches. A band struck up "Onward Christian Soldiers". when Mr. Mandela arrived just before noon. Surrounded by photographers, he shook hands with a line of people in wheelchairs, then a ine of religious leaders, as he made his way across the field to take a seat on the stage next to Anglican Archbishop De-

The service was broadcast live on national television and

A huge South African flag, its design chosen by black and white negotiators who opened

NICOSIA (AP) — Saudi Ara-

bia has stepped up a campaign

to stamp out dissent, targeting

university students, professors

and other college employees in

the latest sweep of arrests, an

exiled human rights group said

The London-based Commit-

tee for the Defence of Legiti-

mate Rights (CDLR), Saudi

Arabia's only openly function-

ing human rights group, said

that a professor of engineering,

a college administration em-

ployee and a university student.

were among those arrested in

the latest sweep by Saudi au-

The committee said in a

statement faxed to the Associ-

ated Press that Dr. Hussein

Mashhour Al Hazimi, a profes-

sor of engineering at the King

Sand University in Riyadh,

It said his house on the

university campus was raided

by authorities before the

arrest. No reason for his arrest

was given, the statement said.

The statement said two

other arrests were targeted at

relatives of the committee's

spokesman, Dr. Mohammad

Ben Abdullah Al Masaari,

who is living in exile in

(Continued from page 1)

help in creating stability and

will bring life back to normal,"

Mr. Johansen replied: "I

think we will do our best to

exercise the mandate to the

The ceremony took place

before a huge picture of the

Ibrahimi Mosque where the

massacre took place and which

they think that now the obser-

vers have arrived they will not

see any more soldiers or set-

senior member of the Jewish

will bring an end to the de-

velopment of the Jewish pre-

sence in the town," said Mr.

The observers have

appealed to the 120,000

Palestinians of Hebron to

cooperate and call a special

number to report incidents

from Monday when street pat-

Advertisements appeared in

"We encourage you to call

Arabic newspapers explaining

this number as soon as any

incidents occur, or report them

directly to members of the patrols," the advertisements

Hebron on foot and in cars,"

"The TIPH patrol the city of

the observers' role.

"It's not the observers who

settlers' council.

Domb.

The Arabs are wrong if

said Aharon Domb, a

is still closed to the public.

benefit of the people."

Mr. Natsche said.

right atmosphere which

The group was set up one

was arrested Thursday.

Saudi rights group

reports new arrests

spread on the soccer field. Balloons in the flag's gold, green, . white, blue, red and black colours were set free as the crowd sang the country's two national anthems at the end of the 21/2 hour service.

As the crowd rocked to the beat and waved their hands, a mass choir from black and white churches sang hymns throughout the service.

Archbishop Tutu, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his own fight against apartheid, took part in the cornerstone of the service. He and other clergymen read statements acknowledging the crimes and pain of the past, and asking God's forgiveness.

The turnout for the service was low compared to the huge crowds that mobbed Mr. Mandela during his victorious campaign for last month's historic all-race elections.

Alan Boesak (left), leader of the African National

Congress in the Western Cape regional assem-

year ago in Saudi Arabia, but it was declared "illegitimate" by

the religious hierarchy, forcing

members to flee the country.
The group's statement said
Mohammad Ben Ibrahim Al

Masaari, an employee of the

deans office at the Islamic Uni-

versity of Imam Mohammad

Ben Saud, and Luai Ben

dent in the Oil and Minerals

University, had both been

picked up in the latest sweeps

to determine how their relative

had slipped out of the

kingdom.
The committee said last

week that authorities had

ordered a sweep of officials

and employees of the passport

office and border guards sus-

pected of helping Mr. Mas-

Last week the group re-ported the arrests of a poet, a

Saad Al Fagih, the commit-

tee's director, said in a tele-

phone interview last week that

the crackdowns appeared

targeted at non-religious intel-

ligentsia.
"What is new is that it is

against writers, intellectuals

and poets," he said, adding

that in the past authorities' efforts were directed more at

dissident Muslim scholars and

said Stein Stoa, director of the emergency department of the

Norwegian Refugee Council.

white uniforms (with white let-

ters on red background) and

will drive white cars marked with TIPH," the adverts said.

will promote security and

monitor the safety of the

Palestinians in the city... The

TIPH will observe and report

on possible violations of hu-

160, but 60 men will be on

patrol from the start," said Mr.

Norway is providing 90 observers, and Denmark and

Italy 35 each for the renewable

Under Palestinian pressure

for international protection in

the aftermath of the mosque

massacre, Israel agreed to

allow the deployment of up to

power, will not be allowed to

operate in any zones declared

closed by the Israeli army, and

can only monitor on events in

the town where some 400

Israel remains in charge of

"Some militants in Hebron,

who oppose the peace process,

said they did not want the

"maintaining order" in Heb-

armed settlers live.

But the force has no police

three-month mandate.

"We will eventually number

man rights."

160 observers

"By their presence the TIPH

"They will wear distinctive

public speakers.

Observers get whiff of tension

writer and an academic.

raai's escape.

Smiling members of the racially-mixed crowd at the service turned to their neighbours and shook hands or hugged after the appeal for reconciliation from Archbishop

Mr. Mandela embraced Leon Wessels, minister of manpower in the outgoing white government of President F.W. de Klerk, who was among dignitaries at the ser-

"There is one force in this country which has had a tremendous impact," said Mr. Mandela. "That is religion, that is the church.

He said church ministers had kept his spirits up during the 27 years he spent in jail for fighting apartheid. "Today, as a result of support we received...we are now ready to begin the great task of building our country.

Mr. Mandela, attended

Muslim and Jewish services on Friday and Saturday as part of his bid to bring reconciliation to a fractured nation.

Mr. Mandela — wearing a prayer cap — told Jews gathered at a Cape Town synagogue on Saturday the new South Africa needed their skills and resources, and appealed to those overseas to

He also said whites had no need to fear black majority

Speaking on the synagogue steps, Mr. Mandela said white living standards would not suffer although the priority of the new government of national unity led by the ANC was to improve the lives of blacks, coloureds and Indians.

On Friday, he told a Muslim congregation at a Cape Town mosque the involvement of religion in the new government would help curb corruption. government of all forms of corruption, and one of the ways of doing this is to ensure that the church has a role in influencing the policies of the

government." The high moral values found in all religions should "penetrate into government structures," Mr. Mandela said.

The 75-year-old ANC leader flies back to Cape Town for the first session on Monday of the country's non-racial 400-seat national assembly.

The assembly, elected in the April 26-29 poll, will confirm Mr. Mandela as president prior to his official inauguration in Pretoria, on the steps of the Union Buildings where the National Party administered its apartheid policies for four de-Mr. Mandela's estranged

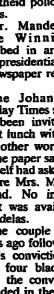
wife Winnie has been snubbed in arrangements for the presidential inauguration, a newspaper reported on Sun-

The Johannesburg-based Sunday Times said Winnie had not been invited to a 1,200guest lunch with Mr. Mandela and other world leaders.

The paper said Mr. Mandela himself had asked organisers to ensure Mrs. Mandela did not attend. No immediate comment was available from the Mandelas.

The couple separated two years ago following Mrs. Mandela's conviction for kidnapping four black youths. Despite the conviction, she was included in the ANC electoral

The new democratic era began in earnest on Saturday as new ANC-dominated provincial assemblies met and blacks took political power for the first time in over three centur-



#### Two foreigners killed as Hrawi and Hariri in

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri and President Elias Hrawi are locked in a dispute over bringing more Christian politicians into the government, govern-ment sources said on Sunday.

dispute

They said Mr. Hariri, a Sunni Muslim, was threatening to refuse to leave his Beirut residence or take part in government activities because of a disagreement with Mr. Hrawi, a Maronite Christian, over who was to be brought in.

The sources said both men wanted to strengthen Christian representation in the cabinet but could not agree over names. Further details of the disagreement were not immediately available.

Relations between the government and the oncedominant Christian minority have been increasingly tense in recent weeks and the proposed cabinet changes appeared to be an attempt to improve them by bringing in more representative Christian politicians.

Half the present government are Christians - in line with the constitution — but they are not the most representative leaders. The most powerful Christian groups boycotted parliamentary elections in 1992, complaining that the community has been pushed aside since the 1975-90 civil

Christians outside the government complain that Mr. Hariri's government is to closely tied to Syria, which has 40,000 troops in Lebanon and is the main power broker in the country.

They say the government's composition and policies are unbalanced, that it is biased against the Christians and that it has failed to implement many provisions of the 1989 Taif accord that ended the war.

Their complaints mounted after the government began arresting members of the Lebanese Forces (LF), the biggest civil war Christian militia. in March and banned the

group without giving a reason. About 40 LF leaders, including its chief Samir Geagea the most outspoken opposition figure in Lebanon — are being interrogated about a church bombing in February and the murder of a Christian rival in 1990.

Christians fear the action against the LF is an attempt to weaken their community. They say the government has not cracked down on Hizbollah, a Shi'ite Muslim fundamentalist militia operating against Israeli troops in South Lebanon.

Under the Taif accord ail militias should have been disarmed, but the government says Hizbollah's activities are legitimate resistance against foreign occupation.

# Algerians rally for peace

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Gun-man killed two French nationals Sunday in an Algiers marketplace, security services said. They were identified as Henri Verges, 64, and Raymond, Paul Heleve, 67.

session before the assembly adjourned after the

first historical mixed white-black session follow-

ing general elections late last month (AFP photo)

The security services said they worked as librarians. Islamic fundamentalists late last year warned foreigners to

leave Algeria or face death. The country has been torn by political violence since the army intervened in January 1992 to cancel second-round elections that the now-banned Islamic Salvation Front was poised to win.

The killings came as thousands marched through Algiers in silence calling for national reconciliation. It was the first attack on

foreigners in more than one month. On March 28 a Russian chauffeur was shot and killed, and security forces said they tracked down and killed his The military-backed govern-

ment has sought to reassure foreigners with heavy security and major sweeps since fundamentalists began targeting foreigners in September. Islamic extremists waging an

insurgency that has left at least 4,000 people dead, aims to destabilise the government by driving out foreigners key to running the oil-based eco-

Algerian journalists, intellectuals and public officials have also been frequent assas-

sination targets since the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was harred from imminent election victory when a runoff was can-

celled in January 1992. Thousands of demonstrators, many of them veiled women and Muslim moderates, marched Sunday for peace talks and an end to the insurgency.

Dialogue and an end to the flow of blood," read one banner in the procession in Algiers of about 12,000 people, twice

that according to organisers. An open letter to President Liamine Zeroual, read to the crowd, called for dialogue with all parties (see page 2).

About 500 women in veils

ioined with women in Western dress, ululating and waving roses along the three-kilometre route from May 1 Square to the Martyrs' Square.

The protest, however, was far smaller than the 100,000 predicted by organisers, who ncluded the long-ruling National Liberation Front. The march for national re-

conciliation, heavily guarded by police, was among several in cities across Algeria that were organised by four parties and 30 associations of moderate Muslims.

On Tuesday an organiser was shot and killed by unidentified gunmen. Abdul Kader Kessal was a leading member of an association for children of veterans from Algeria's 1954-62 war for independence from France.

#### Whipped American woman suspected spy — Iran paper TEHRAN (Agencies) — An

American woman who was whipped in public in Iran two weeks ago is suspected of being a spy, an Iranian newspaper said Sunday.

"This woman who claims to be a citizen of America has made interrogators suspect her of espionage activities, Jomhuri Islami said of Marv Jones, a 35-year-old Texan arrested in Tehran for drunken behaviour in Tehran.

The court had sentenced Ms. Jones to 80 lashes, a 10,000 rials (\$5.70) fine and deportation to America. The newspaper did not say if

Ms. Jones was still detained. There was no immediate comment from the Swiss embassy, which handles American interests in Iran. Another newspaper,

Kayhan, quoted Interior Ministry sources as saying Ms. Jones had obtained Iranian citizenship following her marriage to an Iranian, from whom she separated.

Kayhan said Ms. Jones could not be deported because she was an Iranian citizen.

Ms. Jones was picked up two weeks ago in the Shemiran neighbourhood in northern Tehran, allegedly in a drunken

She was immediately given 80 lashes of the whip after being found guilty in a court of "promoting prostitution" and ordered deported, newspapers

However, Kayhan said Ms. Jones insisted she would not leave because she has Iranian citizenship,

Kayhan charged on Thursday that Ms. Jones, who has been in Iran since 1983, came to Iran "without identity papers and with the aim of corrupting the young in Iran."

Jomhuri Islami charged Thursday that new information on Ms. Jones had led the authorities to believe that she was also engaged in espionage activities.

She visited the battlefront during the 1980-1988 war with Iraq and made "suspicious remarks' during interrogation after her arrest," it said.

However, a court contacted by AFP denied there were any evidence of espionage activities by Ms. Jones, and that she had been arrested on corruption charges only.

The interest section of the United States at the Swiss embassy in Tehran declined to comment on the case.

## The Scream

recovered

OSLO (R) — Norway's stolen masterpiece, The Scream was recovered undamaged and three people have been arrested, police said. Edvard Munch's priceless 1983 pains. ing, taken from the National Gallery in Oslo three months ago, was found at a hotel in the south of the country. "The painting was found today at Aasgaardstrand Hotel and three people have been charged with assisting in handling stolen goods," police Isc spector Leif Lier told Renters: Munch had a summer cottage in Aasgaardstrand Beach tesort and painted many of his most famous works there. Mr. Lier declined to comment on whether a ransom had been paid for the painting of a waiflike figure, wide-mouthed in terror beneath a blood-red skyl But he confirmed the work, which had been taken out of its frame, was undamaged. A piece of the frame was found at a bus stop near Oslo earlier this month. The National Gallery has previously said the painting — waxed crayon and tempera on cardboard — could easily be smudged outside its frame and cover of armoured glass. Mr. Lier said Norwegian Police had been helped by Britain's Scotland Yard in their hunt but declined to give any further information about the case. Art experts have said the painting is impossible to sell on the open market and a group of Norwegian investors have allegedly been involved in furtive talks about paying a ransom for the work, aiming to return it to the National Gal-

#### Lemonade helps plane make emergency landing

3 TO 12

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Sept 50

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ARKHANGELSK, Russia (AP) - An Aeroflot jet carrying 62 people made an emergency landing in this far north city after the crew managed to fix a faulty hydraulic system by pouring in lemos nade, a news report said. There were no injuries reported, but an airline duty officer in Moscow said the Tupolev-134 suffered serious damage when it touched down without part of the landing gear in place. The officer, Valentin Ignatiev, said he could not confirm the use of lemonade, as reported by the ITAR-TASS news agency, and would not speculate on what went wrong. It was the latest embarrassment for Aeroflot, which has been struggling to salvage its reputation after two air disasters this year killed a total of 199 people and high-lighted Russia's poor air-safety. record. Flight 2315 from Moscow to Arkhangelsk Saturday had 55 passengers and seven crew. As it prepared to land, two of the three sections of landing gear failed to come down, ITAR-TASS said, apparently because of a loss of fluid. The report said that while the plane circled, the crew "had to pour all the reserves of lemonade into the hydraulic system" and managed to lower one more section of landing gear. The cause of the incident was being investigated. Mr. Ignatiev said the plane ran off the runway and suffered wing damage. The airport in the White Sea City, about 1,000 kilometres (62) miles) north of Moscow, was closed for three hours. Study: Nicotine

#### patch helps heart disease victims

OMAHA, Nebraska (R) — Heart disease victims can safely use the nicotine patch to quit smoking, and the method may actualy blunt the stress that withdrawal would otherwise place on their weakened hearts, researchers reported Sunday. "These findings can boost the confidence of heart patients who want to stop. smoking using the nicotine patch. In addition to no evidence of an increased risk... use of the nicotine patch significantly improved their success in quitting," said Stephen Ren nard, a researcher at the University of Nebraska who was involved in the study. The report was published in this. month's Archives of Internal Medicine. The study involved 156 smokers with stable corosary artery disease in four medical centres across the country. Some of the patients were given the Nicoderm brand patch to help them stop smoking while others received an inert placebo patch. Researchers said 36 per cent of the patients with the patch were able to stop smoking, compared to 22 per cent of those with the placebo.